UN Chronicle

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Health for All

Department of Public Information
United Nations

'. . . Against disease and death'

Our cover features sections of a mural which graces a wall of the high-rise headquarters of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. Symbolizing the fight by WHO against disease and death, the triptych was created in 1958 by renowned Swiss artist Hans Erni. A reproduction was displayed at the UN Pavilion of the World's Fair that year in Brussels, Belgium.

The entire canvas—more than five metres long by two metres high (about 17'×6.5')—took just three weeks to paint. The artist hoped that the sense of harmony he had conveyed in the mural might "help mankind become a little more harmonious".

Over the last four decades, Mr. Erni has provided artwork for stamps for the UN Postal Administration and first-day covers for the World Federation of UN Associations. Most recently, his portrait of former Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar was added to the gallery of UN leaders displayed at Headquarters in New York.

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THE 38th FLOOR

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali

An Agenda for Peace

In a special report entitled "An Agenda for Peace", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has offered a multi-faceted plan to enable the United Nations to take up a wider mission in the pursuit and preservation of world peace. It features many novel proposals designed to hone the UN's ability to identify conflicts, bring about their short-term and long-term resolution, and foster peace among former adversaries.

The Agenda, released on 23 June as a 53-page booklet and also as a UN document *(A/47/277-S/24111)*, is the Secretary-General's response to the request of Heads of State and Government—who gathered on 31 January for a historic Security Council summit—for recommendations on improving preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping.

"The United Nations is a gathering of sovereign States and what it can do depends on the common ground that they create between them", Mr. Boutros-Ghali states at the beginning of his report. "The adversarial decades of the cold war made the original promise of the Organization impossible to fulfil. The January 1992 Summit therefore represented an unprecedented recommitment, at the highest political level, to the purposes and principles of the Charter.

"In these past months, a conviction has grown, among nations large and small, that an opportunity has been regained to achieve the great objectives of the Charter—a United Nations capable of maintaining international peace and security, of securing justice and human rights and of promoting, in the words of the Charter, 'social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom'. This opportunity must not be squandered. The Organization must never again be crippled as it was in the era that has now passed."

The Secretary-General presented his report—which draws upon ideas and proposals from Governments, regional agencies, non-governmental organizations, institutions and individuals from many countries—with, he said, a "sense of moment".

"The manifest desire of the membership to work together is a new source of strength in our common endeavour", he stated. "It is crucial for all Member States to bear in mind that the search for improved mechanisms and techniques will be of little significance unless this new spirit of commonality is propelled by the will to take the hard decisions demanded by this time of opportunity."

On 30 June, the Security Council called the report "a first and comprehensive reflection" on the ongoing process of transforming and strengthening the UN. It contained a set of "complex, interesting proposals", which the Council said it would examine "in depth and with due priority".

The Secretary-General, in addition to offering recommendations on improving the Organization's capacity for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping, also addresses the related concept of what he calls, "post-conflict peace-building". These four areas for action, he states, "taken together, and carried out with the backing of all Members, offer a coherent contribution towards securing peace in the spirit of the Charter".

Preventive diplomacy

The most desirable and efficient use of diplomacy is to ease tensions before they result in conflict, states the Secretary-General. To foster preventive diplomacy, he proposes:

- Measures to increase fact-finding and build good faith between States;
- Establishment of an early warning system for assessing possible threats to peace;
- Identification by the Council of economic and social situations that might pose a threat to international peace and security;
- Creation of a new technique—"preventive deployment"—whereby UN forces could be sent to an area to deter cross-border attacks or prevent hostilities within a country, rather than wait until after armed conflict had occurred; and
- Consideration of demilitarized zones in a preventive, rather than post-conflict, context to separate potential belligerants. Such zones would serve as "symbols of the international community's concern that conflict be prevented".

Peacemaking

"Between the tasks of seeking to prevent conflict and keeping the peace lies the responsibility to try to bring hostile parties to agreement by peaceful means", the Secreatary-General continues. To further the pursuit of peacemaking, he recommends:

- Creation of a new category of UN forces—"peace-enforcement units"—to be deployed in cases where the task of maintaining a cease-fire might exceed the mission of peace-keeping. Such units would consist of trained volunteer troops more heavily armed than peace-keeping forces;
- Full participation of the General Assembly in supporting efforts at mediation, negotiation or arbitration of a dispute;
- Greater reliance on the International Court of Justice for the peaceful adjudication of differences; and
- Armed forces should be made available by Member States to the Security Council on a permanent basis to provide the UN with credibility as a "guarantor of international security".

Peace-keeping

The nature of peace-keeping—which the Secretary-General terms "the invention of the United Nations"—has evolved rapidly in recent years. "As the international climate has changed and peace-keeping operations are increasingly fielded to help implement settlements that have been negotiated by peacemakers, a new array of demands and problems has emerged regarding logistics, equipment, personnel and finance", he reports. To effectively meet increasing demands, he calls for:

- The immediate establishment of a $50-million revolving peace-keeping reserve fund;
- Improved training of peace-keeping personnel, especially language training for national police contingents who may serve with the Organization; and
- Establishment of a pre-positioned stock of basic peace-keeping equipment to fill gaps in under-equipped troops provided by Governments. Alternatively, Governments should commit to keeping certain equipment on stand-by for immediate use by the UN when required.

Post-conflict peace-building

Whereas preventive diplomacy is to avoid a crisis, "post-conflict peace-building is to prevent a recurrence", states the Secretary-General. He envisages various post-conflict measures designed to foster confidence between parties to an armed dispute, including:

• Disarming them, repatriating refugees, monitoring elections, advancing efforts to protect human rights and reforming or strengthening governmental institutions;

• Undertaking projects that bring States together, including agricultural development, improvement of transportation, sharing of resources, and educational exchanges;

• De-mining combat zones to enable restoration of agriculture, road building and other peace-building activities; and

• Development of UN technical assistance to help transform deficient national structures and strengthen democratic institutions.

Greater participation

Regional arrangements and agencies should also be utilized for prevention, peacemaking, peace-keeping and peace-building. The UN has recently encouraged a "rich variety of complementary efforts", the Secretary-General reports, adding: "Just as no two regions or situations are the same, so the design of cooperative work and its divisions of labour must adapt to the realities of each case with flexibility and creativity."

As a matter of decentralization, delegation and cooperation with UN efforts, regional action would not only lighten the Council's burden but also "contribute to a deeper sense of participation, consensus and democratization in international affairs", he said.

Similarly, UN peace operations require the cooperation of international organizations and specialized agencies. Presenting the Agenda at a press conference on 3 July at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London, the Secretary-General said that the most difficult problem facing peace-keeping and peace-making operations was building greater coordination and synchronization within the UN system.

"We are no longer involved only in peace-keeping operations; we are also involved in the reconstruction of a country, in the return of refugees, in creating new institutions, in participating with observers in the elections, even in participating in the administration and in Government", he stated.

The changing context

In his report, Mr. Boutros-Ghali also analysed recent developments affecting international peace and security, noting that more than 100 major conflicts around the world had left more than 20 million dead since the creation of the UN in 1945.

"The United Nations was rendered powerless to deal with many of these crises because of the vetoes—279 of them—cast in the Security Council, which were a vivid expression of the divisions of that period", he reports. With the end of the cold war, there have been no such vetoes, he said, and demands on the UN have surged. The Security Council, "once disabled by circumstances it was not created or equipped to control, has emerged as a central instrument for the prevention and resolution of conflicts and for the preservation of peace", he added.

He appealed for the Council to operate on the basis of shared interests, not the threat of the veto or the power of any group of nations. He also recommended that the Council meet at the summit level every other year, just before the General Assembly debate begins, to stimulate ideas on how the UN may best serve "to steer change into peaceful courses".

Furthermore, the Secretary-General maintained: "A chasm has developed between the tasks entrusted to this Organization and the financial means provided to it. The truth of the matter is that our vision cannot really extend to the prospect opening before us as long as our financing remains myopic." He saw two main areas of concern: the ability of the Organization to function over the longer term; and immediate requirements to respond to a crisis.

He also asserted that unless principles of the UN Charter are applied consistently, and not selectively, trust would wane and with it the Charter's moral authority. Moreover, trust required a sense of confidence that the Organization would react "swiftly, surely and impartially" and that it would not be debilitated by political opportunism or by administrative or financial inadequacy.

Seize the moment

The final chapter of the landmark report begins: "The Nations and peoples of the United Nations are fortunate in a way that those of the League of Nations were not. We have been given a second chance to create the world of our Charter that they were denied. With the cold war ended we have drawn back from the brink of a confrontation that threatened the world and, too often, paralysed our Organization.

"Even as we celebrate our restored possibilities, there is a need to ensure that the lessons of the past four decades are learned and that the errors, or variations of them, are not repeated", the Secretary-General maintains. "For there may not be a third opportunity for our planet which, for different reasons, remains endangered."

He concludes: "The United Nations was created with great and courageous vision. Now is the time, for its nations and peoples, and the men and women who serve it, to seize the moment for the sake of the future."

2 million displaced, 50,000 dead
. . . And the numbers are rising . . .

Wide-ranging sanctions imposed against Yugoslavia

Largest refugee crisis in Europe since Second World War

AP/Wide World Photos

UNPROFOR troops in Sarajevo inspect UN vehicles destroyed during fighting.

The Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, on 30 May imposed wide-ranging sanctions against Yugoslavia, a move it was hoped would help achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in the new State of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as in other republics of the former Yugoslav State.

(The former Yugoslavia consisted of six constituent republics—Bosnia-Hercegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia. Serbia and Montenegro now constitute the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.)

Between 1 April and the end of June 1992, the Council adopted seven resolutions concerning the deteriorating situation in the region, with the focus shifting from the northern republics of Croatia and Slovenia, to centrally-situated Bosnia and Herzegovina and its capital city of Sarajevo. That brought to 13 the number of Council resolutions adopted since the recent Yugoslav crisis was first acted on by the UN in September 1991.

By mid-June, there were disturbing reports of desperate conditions requiring humanitarian assistance and "ethnic cleansing" operations

in villages and towns, creating new waves of refugees. There were also reports that food shortages and fear of the widening conflict were forcing families to leave their homes.

Haris Silajdzic, Foreign Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 22 June reported that at least 50,000 persons had been killed in his newly-independent country, a "tragic result of brutal aggression" by Serbs and Montenegrans, he said.

Yugoslavia told the UN that in no way was it instigating the conflict. It had done "everything in its power" to prevent and halt the fighting and find a political and peaceful solution. It also rejected charges of army atrocities, stating it had tried to prevent human rights abuses. Instead of sanctions, an international peace conference should be convened, it maintained.

By mid-July, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported there were more than 2.25 million refugees and displaced people in the war-torn region—the largest refugee crisis in Europe since the Second World War.

The Council acts

Against a backdrop of on-again, off-again cease-fires and rapidly rising numbers of casualties and refugees, the Council acted to deploy and strengthen the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), despite ongoing difficulties impeding the Force's work and full deployment.

UNPROFOR was officially established on 21 February, as the Council unanimously adopted resolution 743 (1992). Its aim was to create the conditions of peace and security required for the negotiation of an overall settlement of the Yugoslav crisis.

From early March through mid-April, some 8,300 members of UNPROFOR were sent to the area. By 23 July, nearly all of the 14,000 UNPROFOR military and civilian staff were in place.

In addition to imposing sanctions under the UN Charter, the Council also demanded withdrawal of forces and an end to fighting and to "outside interference". It also established a joint commission to oversee the restoration of Croatian authority in the Serbian-populated "pink zones". After sanctions were instituted, the Council subsequently decided to exempt humanitarian relief from such a ban.

On 25 September 1991, at a special ministerial-level meeting, the Council had taken its first official action on the Yugoslav situation by imposing a general arms embargo. It did so by unanimously adopting resolution 713 (1991), forbidding all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Yugoslavia.

Use UN force?

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali dispatched two special missions in April and May. His Personal Envoy on Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance, undertook a seventh mission to the area from 14 to 18 April. Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina from 4 to 10 May to determine peace-keeping options.

As the crisis intensified, Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali on 26 June told the Council that unless Serbian forces stopped fighting in Sarajevo within 48 hours and put their heavy weapons under UN control, it would be up to the Council to "determine what other means would be required to bring relief to the suffering people of Sarajevo".

Three days after this hint of possible use of force, the Secretary-General reported that Serb forces had been withdrawn from the airport and had begun the process of concentrating their heavy weapons in locations to be supervised by the UN. He said "considerable progress" had been made towards assumption by the UN of responsibility for the airport.

Price tag: $607 million

In authorizing UNPROFOR's full deployment on 7 April, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 749 (1992), approving the Secretary-General's implementation plan *(S/23777)* for the Force's deployment by mid-May.

All concerned were asked to maximize contributions to the Force's costs, estimated at $607 million. Complete freedom of aerial movement for the Force was asked.

On 10 April, the Council, alarmed by reports of rapid deterioration of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, appealed for an immediate end to fighting in that former Yugoslav republic.

In a 24 April statement, the Council demanded an end to outside interference and condemned the use of force. It also welcomed efforts of the European Community and the UN to promote respect for the 12 April ceasefire.

The Secretary-General had reported on 24 April *(S/23844)* that the fighting in Sarajevo and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina had been a "complicating factor" in the assumption of responsibilities by UNPROFOR by mid-May.

Situation worsens

In another report of 24 April *(S/23836)*, the Secretary-General observed that the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina had "worsened markedly" since March.

Summarizing the outcome of Mr. Vance's April mission, the Secretary-General concurred with Mr. Vance's conclusion that "no party to the conflict is blameless" and that all sides had to bear some of the responsibility for the outbreak of the conflict and its continuation.

In light of all factors, the deployment of a peace-keeping force to Bosnia and Herzegovina was not feasible, he said. The current situation was characterized by "massive mistrust" among the republic's communities. "All the parties tend

to blame each other; mutual recriminations abound; the cycle of violence is escalating", he stated, adding that the parties held conflicting and contradictory views on almost all aspects of the conflict.

New wave of refugees

The conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina was causing a huge new wave of displaced persons, the Secretary-General reported, with the number growing at an average of 30,000 per day.

On 11 April, UNHCR and the three political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina agreed in a "Sarajevo Declaration" that treatment of refugees was to be based on strictly humanitarian, non-political and non-discriminatory criteria.

UNHCR was delivering food aid, but the provision of basic human needs was significantly hindered by continued fighting, roadblocks and hijacking of vehicles.

The Secretary-General on 4 May strongly urged all parties to stop the violence and reduce the prevailing tension in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in Sarajevo. He also called on all parties to respect and ensure the safety of UNPROFOR and other international personnel.

Caught in crossfire

On 14 May, the Secretary-General expressed great concern over the renewed outbreak of hostilities in Sarajevo and called for a halt in the fighting. He was particularly concerned about the safety of some 350 UNPROFOR headquarters personnel in that city. The plan for their partial and temporary relocation had not been implemented when heavy fighting resumed that morning. They found themselves in a dangerous situation and had taken shelter at three different locations.

UN personnel were caught in a crossfire between two fighting groups. UN property, including vehicles, had sustained considerable

Yugoslav Crisis

A Chronology of Security Council Action

1991

RESOLUTION 713—25 September: Urged parties to conflict to abide strictly by cease-fire; imposed a general and complete embargo on all deliveries of weapons and military equipment.

RESOLUTION 721—27 November: Urged compliance with 23 November cease-fire agreement; approved efforts towards possible establishment of a UN peace-keeping operation.

RESOLUTION 724—15 December: Approved the concept and plan *(S/23280)* for a UN peacekeeping operation in Yugoslavia; established committee to monitor arms embargo.

1992

RESOLUTION 727—8 January: Welcomed signing of Implementing Accord at Sarajevo on 2 January; dispatched 50 military liaison officers to help maintain ceasefire.

RESOLUTION 740—7 February: Asked that preparations for peacekeeping force be expedited.

RESOLUTION 743—21 February: Established the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR) for 12-month period to create conditions of peace and security for negotiating overall settlement.

RESOLUTION 749—7 April: Authorized earliest possible full deployment of UNPROFOR, the second largest peace-keeping operation in UN history.

RESOLUTION 752—15 May: Demanded an immediate end to fighting in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to forcible expulsions and attempts to change the entire composition of the population, anywhere in the former Yugoslavia, as well as the immediate cessation of all outside interference; welcomed efforts of European Community to achieve a peaceful solution.

RESOLUTION 757—30 May: Imposed wide-ranging sanctions against Yugoslavia under Chapter VII of UN Charter, including an air embargo; demanded that unimpeded delivery of humanitarian supplies be facilitated and a security zone at Sarajevo airport created. Arms embargo committee to monitor compliance.

RESOLUTION 758—8 June: Enlarged mandate of UNPROFOR and authorized further deployments to help reopen the airport for humanitarian deliveries; condemned cease-fire violations.

RESOLUTION 760—18 June: Exempted "commodities and products for essential humanitarian need" from general embargo against Yugoslavia.

RESOLUTION 761—29 June: Decided to deploy additional UNPROFOR elements to ensure the security and functioning of Sarajevo airport; called for absolute and unconditional cease-fire. "In the absence of cooperation", the Council "does not exclude other measures" to deliver humanitarian assistance to Sarajevo and its environs.

RESOLUTION 762—30 June: Established a joint commission to oversee restoration of Croatian authority in "pink zones"; authorized more military observers and civilian police for UNPROFOR.

UN Photo 179784/M. Tzovaras

Ambassador Dragomir Djokic of Yugoslavia

damage. However, only two light casualties had been reported among the UN personnel.

On 15 May, it was reported that a cease-fire agreement had been reached in Sarajevo, effective immediately, following talks under UN auspices at UNPROFOR headquarters.

Two thirds of UNPROFOR headquarters personnel had been temporarily relocated on 16 and 17 May from Sarajevo. In so far as security conditions permitted, the approximately 90 personnel remaining had continued arranging, hosting and sometimes chairing meetings between the hostile parties, accompanying delegations to such meetings, arranging and witnessing exchanges of prisoners, and other humanitarian tasks.

A 'violent, confused' situation

The Security Council on 15 May, in unanimously adopting resolution 752 (1992), demanded an immediate end to the fighting in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the immediate cessation of all outside interference, including by units of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) and elements of the Croatian army. It also demanded withdrawal of such units and elements, and that "all irregular forces" in Bosnia and Herzegovina be disbanded and disarmed.

The Council also demanded that all concerned cooperate fully with UNPROFOR and the European Community Monitoring Mission (ECMM), and respect fully their freedom of movement and the safety of their personnel. The urgent need for humanitarian assistance was stressed. The Secretary-General was asked to keep under review the possibility of deploying a UN peace-keeping mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On 12 May, Mr. Boutros-Ghali had reported *(S/23900)* that it was "not at present feasible" to undertake peace-keeping activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina "beyond the existing limited involvement" of UNPROFOR in Sarajevo and the Mostar region, where the security of UN personnel was already "precarious". Developments in Croatia had also raised "new doubts about the practicability" of the UN peace-keeping operation.

The Secretary-General said the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina was "tragic, dangerous, violent and confused" and that "any successful peace-keeping operation" had to be based on "some agreement between the hostile parties". He pointed out that the establishment of UNPROFOR headquarters in Sarajevo had "not prevented a savage conflict from breaking out there", and noted that those were "not the conditions which permit a United Nations peace-keeping operation to make an effective contribution".

Bosnia and Herzegovina's President Alija Izetbegovic had asked the UN to deploy an "intervention force" to enforce an end to the fighting. The Secretary-General stated that "such a concept would require many tens of thousands of troops equipped for potential combat with heavily armed and

UN Photo 179971/J. Isaac

Foreign Minister Silajdzic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

determined adversaries". He said such an enforcement action was not "a practicable proposition". He would then not recommend a UN role in providing armed escorts for convoys of relief supplies them.

New task force

On 22 May, the Secretary-General chaired a new task force he had established on Yugoslavia. It would meet at least three times a week to monitor the situation in that country and coordinate the UN's role in the Yugoslav crisis.

The group was comprised of Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson, Under-Secretary-General Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Vladimir Petrovsky and Alvaro de Soto, Senior Political Adviser in the Office of the Secretary-General.

On 28 May, Lieutenant General Satish Nambiar of India, the UNPROFOR Commander, met in Croatia with leaders of the JNA and the Croatian Army Command, after which the two sides confirmed the withdrawal of all heavy artillery beyond the lines of confrontation.

Sanctions imposed

In adopting resolution 757 (1992) on 30 May, the Council instituted an embargo on Yugoslav products and commodities, financial and economic contacts, and suspended sports contacts, as well as scientific, technical and cultural exchanges. The resolution also imposed an air embargo, except for flights approved for humanitarian purposes.

It was adopted by 13 to none, with 2 abstentions (China, Zimbabwe).

In addition to preventing exports and transshipments, States were required to prevent the sale or supply to Yugoslavia of commodities or products, except foodstuffs and supplies intended strictly for medical purposes. Financial and economic resources, except payments exclusively for food or humanitarian purposes, were forbidden.

States were also to reduce the level of staff at Yugoslav diplomatic missions and consular posts, and prevent Yugoslav participation in sporting events on their territory.

The Council also noted that the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to continue the UN membership of the former State of Yugoslavia had not been generally accepted.

The Council, in resolution 757, condemned the failure of the authorities in Yugoslavia, including the JNA, to take effective measures to stop the fighting and withdraw from Bosnia and Herzegovina, in line with resolution 752, which had also required immediate cessation of all outside interference. Sanctions were to remain in effect until then. The committee created by the Council to monitor the Yugoslav arms embargo in effect under resolution 713 (1991) was to receive reports on sanctions implementation.

The Council also wanted unimpeded delivery of humanitarian supplies to the area and creation of a security zone around Sarajevo and its airport. It again demanded that elements of the Croatian Army in Bosnia and Herzegovina withdraw. All concerned were to cooperate with UNPROFOR, the Conference on Yugoslavia and the ECMM. The three communities in Bosnia and Herzogovina should resume discussions on constitutional arrangements.

Yugoslavia responds

Responding to imposition of sanctions, Yugoslavia on 5 June informed the UN *(S/24074)* it had "no territorial claims" on Bosnia and Herzegovina or any other country. It had, it said, publicly urged the Serbian leadership in Bosnia and Herzegovina to initiate an immediate cease-fire, and was "most emphatically" striving for implementation of resolution 752. Withdrawal of the JNA had taken place, but "certain elements" of it remained in Bosnia and Herzegovina as "citizens of that republic", it said. Yugoslavia claimed it had "no control over those forces" and proposed that their demobilization be carried out jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States, under UN auspices.

Devastation continues

On 26 May, the Secretary-General reported *(S/24000)* that the devastation of Bosnia and Herzegovina was continuing and the displacement of the civilian population from its towns and villages was "proceeding on a scale not seen in Europe since the Second World War". Basic humanitarian rules for the protection of civilian population in armed conflicts were being seriously violated. There had also been a "grievous deterioration" in the plight of civilians trapped in cities besieged by irregular forces and, in some cases, by the JNA.

In Sarajevo alone, the Secretary-General stated, it was estimated that some 300,000 to 400,000 people were in need of emergency relief. The deteriorating security situation there had prevented

UNHCR/22030/A. Hollmann

Croatians in West Slavonia outside their destroyed home.

UNHCR from continuing delivery of assistance to and from the city. Relief deliveries to other areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina had been organized from Zagreb and Belgrade, but the convoys had been stopped at roadblocks and allowed to continue only after further negotiations.

The Secretary-General stated that should it not be possible to negotiate or respect the agreements for the protection of humanitarian relief deliveries, "it may be necessary to consider armed protection".

Responding to reports of the continuing bombardment of Sarajevo, the Secretary-General on 30 May urged Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to use his influence with the Serbian side in Bosnia and Herzegovina to end the shelling of the city. In a statement, he said he had appealed to the Commander of Serbian forces in that republic to cease the bombardment immediately, and requested Bosnia and Herzegovina President Izetbegovic to facilitate the withdrawal of blockaded JNA members from barracks in the city.

UNPROFOR strengthened

The Security Council on 8 June decided to enlarge the mandate of and strengthen UNPROFOR so it could take over full operational responsibility for the functioning and security of Sarajevo airport.

The Council also authorized the Secretary-General to deploy military observers and related personnel and equipment to Sarajevo to supervise the withdrawal of anti-aircraft weapons and the concentration of heavy weapons at agreed locations in the city to ensure unimpeded delivery of humanitarian supplies to Sarajevo and other destinations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In unanimously adopting resolution 758 (1992), the Council demanded that all parties concerned create immediately the necessary conditions for unimpeded delivery of humanitarian supplies, including the establishment of a security zone encompassing Sarajevo and its airport. It also demanded that they cooperate fully with UNPROFOR and international humanitarian agencies, and take steps to ensure their safety.

In his 6 June report *(S/24075 and Add.1)*, the Secretary-General recommended a four-phase programme to secure Sarajevo airport.

A 'significant breakthrough'

Negotiations among representatives of UNPROFOR and the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, leaders of the Croatian Democratic Party and the self-proclaimed "Serbian Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina", and the Commander of the Army of that "Republic" resulted in a 5 June agreement, providing for a cease-fire and for the functioning and security of Sarajevo airport, under UNPROFOR's supervision, the Secretary-General reported.

The airport agreement, he said, represented a significant breakthrough in the tragic conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He had asked the UNPROFOR Commander to pursue negotiations for a broader security zone encompassing the city of Sarajevo as a whole.

In a 30 May report *(S/24049)*, the Secretary-General had said that the Council's decision to impose sanctions on Yugoslavia had created a "new situation" with regard to certain provisions of resolution 752, especially the Council's demand that all JNA units and the Croatian Army elements in Bosnia and Herzegovina be withdrawn, disbanded and disarmed, or be subject to the authority of the Government of that republic.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali said resolution 752 assumed that those processes would be agreed upon voluntarily by those in political and operational control of the troops concerned. He said it was "difficult to see how the solutions demanded by the Security Council could be achieved". He pointed to recent experience which

UNHCR/22021/A. Hollmann

Thousands found refuge in gymnasiums and other shelters.

Xavier Cronin

A Croatian refugee from Vukavar.

indicated that "less respect" was shown for an international presence in the former Yugoslavia than in other situations where international observers had played a role.

A UN official on 8 June said that UN representatives in Sarajevo had reported heavy fighting there on that day and on two previous days. The Secretary-General was dismayed by the increase in the fighting.

Humanitarian situation 'desperate'

The Secretary-General on 11 June expressed concern that the accord on the opening of Sarajevo airport had not yet been implemented. "The humanitarian situation is reaching a stage which can only be characterized as desperate", he warned.

He also said: "A heavy responsibility weighs on the leaders of all parties involved in this conflict, and especially upon those who disregard humanitarian considerations or deliberately stand in the way of a political settlement." All parties involved should implement the agreement to facilitate the resumption of efforts towards a political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Conference on Yugoslavia. The reactivation of the political process on a continued basis was the only way out of the present "senseless bloodshed and destruction".

Another cease-fire

By 14 June, reaffirmation of the cease-fire had been obtained from the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina and from the Serb side. The cease-fire came into effect on 15 June and a 30-man UNPROFOR reconnaisance team was subsequently sent to the airport.

Authorities in Belgrade and Zagreb categorically insisted that they did not interfere militarily in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Nevertheless, there was reason to believe that both Serb and Croat combatants continued to receive at least part of their financial and logistic support from outside the republic, the Secretary-General reported *(S/24100)* on 15 June.

Forced expulsions had continued in Bosnia and Herzegovina, he stated. Mass expulsions had also continued elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia. In Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Croatia, minority families driven from their homes and farms had been replaced, in a practice that had come to be known as "ethnic cleansing". UNPROFOR was doing all it could to prevent those inhumane practices, he added.

The Secretary-General stated that the ECMM had withdrawn from Bosnia and Herzegovina on 6 May following the killing of one of its monitors. UNPROFOR temporarily withdrew most headquarters personnel from Sarajevo on 16 and 17 May, leaving behind a group of 106, whose work was handicapped, the Secretary-General said, by "repeated interference with its freedom of movement".

The Secretary-General observed that owing to the unwillingness of both sides to honour the agreements and use mechanisms which had been put in place by the international community, there had been limited progress to control and resolve the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"The picture in Croatia is less sombre", the Secretary-General stated, adding that "in assessing the prospects in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is important to remember that there was a time when the situation in Croatia also seemed hopeless". The UN would continue its efforts in both republics at creating an atmosphere conducive to easing the suffering of the civilian population and in which the negotiation of political solutions could proceed under the auspices of the European Community.

Prohibition exemptions

The Security Council, in unanimously adopting resolution 760 (1992) on 18 June, decided that prohibitions imposed against Yugoslavia should not apply to the sale or supply of "commodities and products for essential humanitarian need".

Also on 18 June, a UN official reported that the first stage of the operation to reopen the airport, which was to secure the cease-fire, was under way.

UNHCR/22037/A Hollmann

The bad news continues.

On 19 June, the official said that agreement for withdrawal of anti-aircraft weapons and concentration of other weapons to locations under UNPROFOR's supervision had been signed the day before by the Serbian side and the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, there was "still severe shelling and fighting" in Sarajevo, including near the UN headquarters.

On 20 June, UNPROFOR formally assumed responsibility for the second of three UN Protected Areas (UNPAs), as part of the phased implementation of the UN peace plan for the region. This area comprised districts of Western Slavonia, called Sector West. UNPROFOR had taken over responsibility for Sector East (Eastern Slavonia) on 15 May and for the remaining UNPA of Krajina late in June.

The Security Council had called for UNPROFOR to demilitarize the sectors and see that the local police carried out their functions impartially.

Bombardments increase

The Secretary-General reported on 26 June that Bosnian Serb forces had increased their bombardment of Dobrinja, a suburb of Sarajevo close to the airport. Tank and infantry attacks had been carried out and heavy artillery had been used against the civilian population. The Secretary-General condemned the continued attacks and called upon the Serb side to cease those attacks immediately.

On 27 June, UNPROFOR informed the Secretary-General that military attacks by Serb forces had ceased and tanks had been withdrawn from the airport. However, new hostilities had been initiated on 26 and 27 June by the government forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Secretary-General appealed to Bosnia and Herzegovina to respect the cease-fire and called on all forces in Sarajevo to halt the fighting and urged cooperation to reopen the airport.

Additional deployments

The Security Council on 29 June authorized the Secretary-General to deploy immediately additional elements of UNPROFOR to ensure the security and functioning of Sarajevo airport and the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

In unanimously adopting resolution 761 (1992), the Council called on all sides to maintain an absolute and unconditional cease-fire, and appealed to them to cooperate fully with UNPROFOR in the reopening of the airport.

The Council declared that in the absence of cooperation from all concerned with UNPROFOR and international humanitarian agencies and organizations, it did not exclude other measures to deliver humanitarian assistance to Sarajevo and its environs.

The Secretary-General, in a statement read out by Under-Secretary-General Goulding, said that latest reports indicated that UNPROFOR had made considerable progress in assuming responsibility for Sarajevo airport.

The Secretary-General noted that the Force Commander had urged him to ask States wishing to send humanitarian flights to Sarajevo to delay doing so until the airport was fully under UNPROFOR control.

Oversee 'pink zones'

On 30 June, the Council recommended the establishment of a joint commission to oversee the restoration of Croatian authority in the "pink zones"—Croatian areas controlled by the JNA and populated largely by Serbs but located outside the agreed boundaries of the UNPA—and authorized UNPROFOR's strengthening by the addition of up to 60 military observers and 120 civilian police to, among other things, help in restoring Croatian authority in those zones.

The joint commission, under UNPROFOR's chairmanship, would consist of representatives of Croatia and local authorities, with ECMM participation.

In unanimously adopting resolution 762 (1992), the Council approved the Secretary-General's 26 June report *(S/24188)* in which he proposed ways to help UNPROFOR assume, as soon as possible, its full responsibilities throughout the UNPAs and undertake monitoring functions in the "pink zones".

To restore order

A UN civilian police force (UNCIVPOL) would be deployed throughout the "pink zones" to monitor the maintenance of law and order by the existing police force, paying particular attention to the well-being of minority groups. UNCIVPOL would supervise the restoration of Croatian police authority and the re-establishment of the local police in proportion to the demographic structure of the areas prior to the conflict.

The Council urged the Croatian Government to withdraw its army to the positions held before the 21 June offensive and cease hostile military activities within or adjacent to UNPAs. It also urged the remaining JNA units, the Serb territorial defence forces in Croatia and others concerned to comply strictly with their obligations under the UN peace-keeping plan, particularly regarding the withdrawal and disarming of all forces.

The Council appealed to all concerned to assist UNPROFOR in implementing the course of action outlined by the Secretary-General, supporting his view about the grave consequences of the collapse of the UN peace-keeping plan would have throughout the region.

Security Council establishes new UN operation in Somalia

UNHCR/22041/P Mogmitzis

Somalians face starvation and death in overcrowded refugee camps.

Support for 90-day emergency plan asked

The Security Council on 24 April decided to establish a UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) to facilitate an immediate cessation of hostilities and the maintenance of a cease-fire throughout the country, and to promote the process of reconciliation and political settlement. It also supported a 90-day Plan of Action for Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia, put forward by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

In unanimously adopting resolution 751 (1992), the Council asked the Secretary-General to deploy immediately 50 UN observers to monitor the cease-fire in the capital city of Mogadishu and approved in principle his plan to deploy as soon as possible a 500-member security force to escort deliveries of humanitarian supplies to distribution centres in and around the city.

The Council also called on all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to end the hostilities and maintain the cease-fire throughout the country. It urged them to facilitate UN efforts to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to affected populations and called for full respect for the security of humanitarian personnel, and for guarantees of their complete freedom of movement.

A Committee consisting of all Council members was established to monitor the ongoing embargo of weapons and military equipment to

Somalia, and to recommend measures to implement the embargo imposed on 23 January under Council resolution 733 (1992).

At the Committee's first meeting on 29 April, it elected Katsumi Sezaki of Japan as Chairman. The Committee on 8 May adopted guidelines for its work and on 28 May appealed for information regarding violations or suspected violations of the mandatory sanctions against Somalia.

Also in resolution 751, the Council asked the Secretary-General to continue his consultations with all Somali parties, movements and factions towards the convening of a conference on national reconciliation and unity in Somalia, in close cooperation with the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Secretary-General was also asked to continue his consultations with the parties in Mogadishu regarding the proposed UN security force and to submit further recommendations as soon as possible.

On 27 April, it was reported that the text of resolution 751 had been delivered to Somali Interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and to the United Somali Congress Chairman, General Mohamed Farah Aidid.

Cost: $23 million

In his report *(S/23829 and Add. 1 and 2)*, the Secretary-General said UNOSOM would be established in accordance with agreements signed on 27 and 28 March, respectively, by Interim President Mohamed and General Aidid.

The Operation was to be established for an initial period of six months, at an estimated cost of $23.1 million. In addition to the 50 military observers and 500 security personnel, some 79 civilian personnel would make up the Operation.

Brigadier-General Imtiaz Shaheen of Pakistan was appointed Chief Military Observer of UNOSOM's military component. Military contingents were drawn from Austria, Bangladesh, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, Indonesia, Jordan, Morocco and Zimbabwe.

A UN technical team dispatched to Somalia had established mechanisms to implement the 90-day Plan of Action to ensure unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance in Mogadishu, as well as arrangements to facilitate the delivery of such assistance to other parts of the country, the Secretary-General reported.

On 28 April, Mohammed Sahnoun of Algeria was appointed Special Representative for Somalia to assist in convening a conference for national reconciliation and unity in Somalia. He would also provide overall direction to UN activities in the country, including those directed at economic recovery and rehabilitation, as well as demobilization and disarmament.

Plan of Action

The Secretary-General reported that the President of Nigeria, currently OAU Chairman, was willing to host a national reconciliation conference in the new Nigerian capital, Abuja, and provide transportation for participants from the Somali factions, groups and movements.

The 90-day Plan of Action, he said, would supply food and other relief assistance to an estimated 1.5 million people most immediately at risk. Another 3.5 million people in need of food, seeds and basic health and water services would also be helped.

The World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) would take the lead in food shipments to the port of Mogadishu, while the UN Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the ICRC and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) would provide increased supplies of non-food assistance.

The distribution of assistance must be based upon equity and need, regardless of political or geographical considerations; designated "corridors" and "zones of peace" must be main-

UNHCR/22042/P. Moumtzis

The suffering goes on.

tained; and the inviolability of all UN and NGO personnel and equipment was a fundamental prerequisite, he added.

"Four years of civil war, against a backdrop of years of neglect and lack of investment in human development, basic services and infrastructure, have left much of Somalia in ruins", the Secretary-General reported *(S/23829/Add.1)*. "In the 14 months that have passed since the overthrow of the former President Siad Barre, the situation in many parts of Somalia has continued to deteriorate."

On 15 May, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees appealed for $34 million to aid Somali and Ethiopian refugees fleeing civil war, drought and famine.

Arms embargo: Is it working?

Despite measures to implement a general and complete embargo on weapons and equipment deliveries to Somalia, reports indicated that arms continued to flow into the country. Monitoring of the embargo should be considered and recovery of the enormous number of small- and medium-sized arms, already in the hands of the civilian population, particularly in Mogadishu, was needed. One possible arrangement could be to exchange arms for food.

"The prevailing crisis in Somalia poses a paradox which must be addressed", the Secretary-General stated. "Without security, relief assistance programmes will continue to be severely constrained; but without relief assistance programmes, the prospects for security are at best precarious." He favoured providing humanitarian assistance even before the full complement of UN security personnel and cease-fire modalities were in place. But an expanded UN relief effort could not be authorized without assurances from all parties in Somalia for the security of relief workers and supplies, he added.

UN Photo 179810/M. Grant

James O. C. Jonah, Special Envoy for Somalia, meets the press. Nadia Younes, Secretary-General's Spokesperson, at left.

Cease-fire arrangements

Although the 3 March cease-fire in Mogadishu had created a new and positive political climate, the Secretary-General expressed concern over the increased fighting and deteriorating security in the north of Somalia and the continuing tension in the south.

"The crisis in Somalia has regional consequences, as is already evidenced by the flow of Somali refugees to neighbouring countries, and there are grave concerns about the destabilizing effects it could have on the Horn of Africa", he reported.

A general cease-fire throughout the country could be called for by the Security Council, he said. Such action would not only end the fighting, but would also create a situation conducive to the convening of a conference on national reconciliation.

The Secretary-General told the press in Washington on 18 May that the UN, on the political front, was trying to promote peace among the different factions in Somalia.

Special Representative Sahnoun in early May discussed the new operation with Interim President Mohamed and General Aidid. They also discussed the cessation of hostilities, the question of Somali refugees on the Somali/Kenya border, and the possible deployment of UN observers and security personnel in Mogadishu.

On 10 May, the heads of UN agencies in Somalia met with Mr. Sahnoun to develop a coordinated approach to humanitarian assistance to the country.

The OAU indicated it would send a representative to Somalia to work with Mr. Sahnoun.

Food arrives

A ship loaded with 5,000 tonnes of wheat from the WFP arrived in Mogadishu on 3 May, earmarked for the nearly 1 million people in and around the capital who were in desperate need of food assistance.

'An evolutionary phase'

Goulding describes new era of peace-keeping

In the space of eight days, between 21 and 28 February, the Security Council established two of the largest—one of them the most expensive—peace-keeping operations in UN history. They are the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), to help secure an overall settlement of the Yugoslav crisis, and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), involving more than 22,000 personnel and costing nearly $2 billion.

On 24 April, the Council also created the UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) to seek a cease-fire and provide urgent humanitarian assistance in that country.

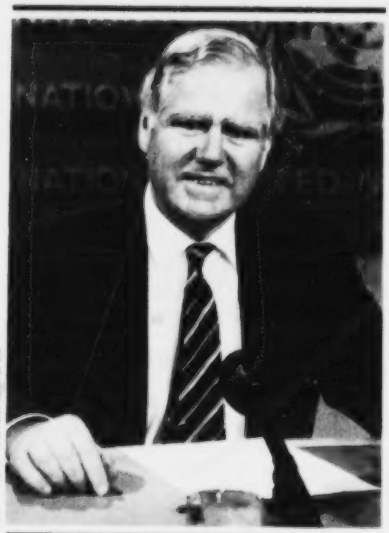
Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, has stressed that peace-keeping is in an evolutionary phase in which new tasks place increasing demands on the UN Secretariat.

He cited an urgent need for a working capital fund and a reserve stock of equipment to support such important and ongoing UN peace-keeping operations.

"Something must be done to ensure that there is money in the kitty" to meet start-up costs of new operations, he said.

There was a continuing need for military personnel under UN command to monitor cease-fires and control demilitarized zones, he stated. New tasks include verification of human rights, as in El Salvador, and the supervision of an existing administration, as in Cambodia.

Field operations are now common, such as monitoring the return of stolen property to Kuwait, which create logistic and administrative demands on the Secretariat similar to those made by traditional peace-keeping units.



UN Photo 179780/Tzovaras

Mr. Goulding

Also, administrative and financial difficulties must be addressed. The lengthy and complex process of funding peace-keeping operations is a continuing obstacle faced by the Secretariat in their effective deployment.

Significant test

Mr. Goulding stated that the $2.7-billion cost of the current unprecedented number of peace-keeping operations was two and a half times the budget of the entire Organization, and the expansion of such operations had been a significant test for the Secretariat and the supporting Member States. Providing major transport, necessary equipment, military and police personnel, as well as support personnel, is a major area of concern.

The number of peace-keeping forces in the field has almost quadrupled—from 11,500 in January to an expected 44,000 by mid-1992. That massive commitment means a $2.7-billion tab for Member States. States must provide military, police and civilian personnel. Also, Secretariat staff must undertake legal and administrative tasks. A great variety of equipment is needed, as is major transport.

Mr. Goulding also pointed out that the budgetary process was unnecessarily long and complex, as the Secretary-General's authority in that regard is severely limited.

Special Committee recommendations

The Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, whose mandate has become increasingly important in recent years, has stressed the need to establish a reserve fund to improve start-up financing of such operations.

The 34-member Committee, which met in New York from 24 to 30 April and on 1 June, recommended that the General Assembly act to ensure a secure and sound financial basis for peace-keeping operations.

The Committee also recommended development of a pool of resources from Member States for such operations. A clear distinction should be made between peace-keeping operations and non-integral

assistance from both UN agencies and parties to a conflict.

Financial and administrative authority should be delegated to Force Commanders or Special Representatives for multi-component missions. The Committee recommended a study on how to prevent duplication of responsibilities of civilian and military staff personnel in the field, and another on training key personnel of peace-keeping operations.

Deployment should be accompanied by intensified coordinated political efforts by the States concerned, regional organizations and the UN itself.

Ultimately, a universally acceptable text for a declaration on peace-keeping operations might be considered in Committee deliberations. It could include the main organizational and practical aspects of such operations and recommendations to enhance their effectiveness.

The Committee transmitted to the Assembly a draft declaration on peace-keeping operations, calling for intensified UN efforts to strengthen international peace and security through development of peace-keeeping and peacemaking functions.

The declaration would formalize the concept that the Security Council should consider ensuring a UN presence at an early stage in the emergence of an international dispute or conflict, and proceed on the basis that peace-keeping operations were temporary measures designed to promote the settlement of conflicts and that their mandates should not be renewed automatically.

The Council should also consider the question of the launching of new operations when it was in the interests of international peace and security, in accordance with UN Charter principles and when the proper financial and material bases were available.

The Assembly would also proclaim that States must strengthen UN peace-keeping capabiliity through additional back-up assistance.

Keeping the peace

The following are brief descriptions of the 12 current UN peace-keeping operations by name, date established, number of personnel and general mandate:

UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), 24 April 1992, 50 military observers, with a 500-member security force to be deployed later; to facilitate an immediate cessation of hostilities, maintain a cease-fire in Mogadishu, promote reconciliation and political settlement, and provide humanitarian assistance.

UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), 28 February 1992, 15,000 military and civilian personnel; to oversee transition to new administration after multi-party elections.

UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), 21 February 1992, 13,000 military and civilian personnel; to ensure the conditions of peace and security required for negotiation of overall settlement of the Yugoslav crisis.

UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II), 30 May 1991, 750 military police and electoral personnel; to carry out new verification tasks arising from the "Peace Accords for Angola" until general elections are completed.

UN Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL), 20 May 1991, 625 military and civilian personnel; to monitor the human rights situation, verify compliance with the 31 December 1991 cease-fire agreement and monitor maintenance of public order pending organization of a new national civil police.

UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), 29 April 1991, 350 military and support personnel; to oversee implementation of the settlement plan, including cease-fire supervision between Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro, and organization of a referendum on the Territory's future.

UN Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM), 9 April 1991, about 460 military and support personnel; to monitor the Iraq-Kuwait border.

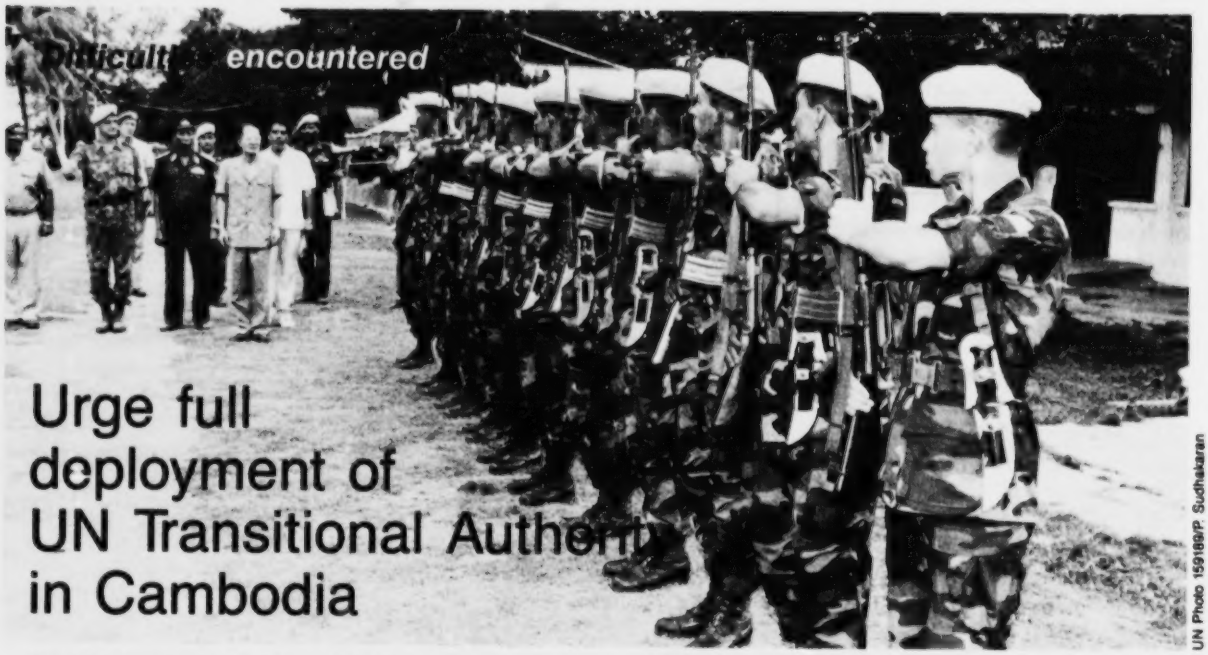
UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), 19 March 1978, 5,854 military personnel; to confirm withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon and assist the Lebanese Government in restoring effective authority over that area.

UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), 31 May 1974, 1,293 troops; to maintain and supervise the cease-fire in the Golan Heights area between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic.

UN Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), 4 March 1964, about 2,200 military and civilian personnel; to prevent the recurrence of fighting, help maintain law and order, and promote a return to normal conditions.

UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), 24 January 1949, 39 observers; to supervise India-Pakistan cease-fire in Jammu-Kashmir area.

UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), 11 June 1948, 290 military personnel; to supervise several Arab-Israeli truces; currently assists UNIFIL and UNDOF.



Urge full deployment of UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia

UN Photo 159186/P. Sudhakaran

Special Representative Yasushi Akashi reviews an UNTAC military unit stationed at the Mekong Naval Base.

The Security Council on 12 June urged Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to accelerate the full deployment of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and called upon all parties to comply strictly with their commitments, including cooperation with UNTAC.

UNTAC—a $1.7-billion UN peace-keeping operation involving 15,000 to 20,000 personnel to oversee Cambodia's transition to a new administration after multi-party elections—was set up by the Council on 28 February. It is the largest and the most expensive peace-keeping operation in UN history. By 16 June, over 17,000 UNTAC personnel had been deployed.

Council President Paul Noterdaeme of Belgium said the Council called upon all parties to respond affirmatively to demands for implementation of the October 1991 Paris Agreements on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia conflict.

The 15-member body expressed deep concern at the difficulties UNTAC was encountering in implementing the Agreements on the eve of moving to the second phase of the cease-fire. It stressed the need to begin the second phase of the military arrangements on 13 June 1992, in accordance with the Agreements.

The Council noted that, during the meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) on 10 June, "one party was not able to allow the necessary deployment of UNTAC in areas under its control". Any delay could jeopardize the whole peace process to which all Cambodian parties had agreed, under the auspices of the UN and the Paris Conference on Cambodia, the Council stated.

It also reaffirmed the importance of the full and timely implementation of the Agreements. The SNC, under Prince Norodom Sihanouk's chairmanship, was "the unique legitimate body and source of authority in which, throughout the transitional period, the sovereignty, independence and unity of Cambodia are enshrined", it stated.

The Council called for the implementation of Section III, Part I of the Agreements as soon as possible. Article 6 of that section states that, "in order to ensure a neutral political environment conducive to free and fair general elections, administrative agencies, bodies and offices which could directly influence the outcome of elections will be placed under direct United Nations supervision or control. In that context, special attention will be given to foreign affairs, national defence, finance, public security and information."

'A good start'

On 1 May, the Secretary-General reported *(S/23870)* that UNTAC, headed by his Special Representative, Yasushi Akashi, had made a generally good start in Cambodia. The cease-fire had been restored in Kompong Thom province, which had been the scene of recent armed clashes and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK) had begun to remove restrictions on UNTAC's access to areas it controlled. But it was not certain whether UNTAC would have the full freedom of

movement it required to reconnoitre all locations selected for regroupment and cantonment of the forces of PDK—the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK).

On 9 May, the Commander of the UNTAC military component, Lieutenant General John Sanderson, announced that phase II of the cease-fire would begin on 13 June.

Lieut. Gen. Sanderson had been assured by the four Cambodian parties that they would: grant freedom of movement to UNTAC personnel, vehicles and aircraft; mark minefields in the areas under its control; provide to UNTAC information on its troops, arms, ammunition and equipment; not interfere with troops moving to regroupment and cantonment areas; and inform its troops of the plan for regroupment and cantonment and the dates and times specified therein.

Continuing interference

On 12 June, the Secretary-General reported that the implementation of the Paris Agreements had reached a critical stage and stressed the vital importance of starting phase II of the cease-fire on 13 June. Various interrelated processes—cantonment, disarmament and demobilization, repatriation and elections—must proceed on time so that free and fair elections could take place as scheduled in April/May 1993.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali reported that PDK was not taking the steps necessary to honour the assurances that it had given. There was continuing interference with UNTAC's freedom of movement.

On 9 June, Mr. Akashi was informed by PDK that it was not in a position to allow UNTAC forces to proceed with their deployments in the areas under PDK's control. At the 10 June SNC meeting, he called on PDK to meet its obligations in full under the Paris Agreements and to enter phase II of the cease-fire on 13 June as agreed. However, the PDK representative failed to respond positively.

Two of the other parties had provided the necessary information on the number of their troops, arms, ammunition and equipment to be cantoned, and the third had made a bona fide effort to comply substantially.

NADK had also continued to deny full access and freedom of movement to UNTAC, the Secretary-General reported, preventing it from conducting reconnaissance of 6 of the 16 cantonment sites envisaged for NADK. It had also failed to mark minefields in areas under its control and had remined some areas. NADK was responsible for many of the cease-fire violations that had continued to occur in the provinces of Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham and elsewhere, he said.

PDK asserted that foreign military personnel remained present in Cambodia and that, until their withdrawal and non-return had been verified by UNTAC, its own security required that fulfilment of its obligations must be deferred. While firmly rejecting that view, UNTAC had taken a number of steps to allay any legitimate security concerns.

On 1 June, PDK submitted a list of allegations regarding the presence of foreign forces in Cambodia. UNTAC asked PDK for personnel to accompany UNTAC's investigations of those allegations. PDK had failed to comply with that request.

(On 30 May, Viet Nam said *(S/24082)* it had no military forces, weapons and military equipment in Cambodia. Allegations of the presence of Vietnamese troops, it said, were aimed at covering up attempts to undermine the implementation of the Paris Agreements.)

Mr. Boutros-Ghali said Special Representative Akashi was consulting with the three parties which had expressed their readiness to begin regroupment and cantonment of their forces to ensure that that process was conducted in a manner which would minimize any military disadvantage they would suffer *vis-à-vis* the fourth party. Efforts must be made to persuade PDK to join the other parties, in good faith, in implementing the comprehensive political settlement.

UNHCR/22012/M. Kobayashi

Prince Sihanouk, SNC Chairman, welcomed the first group of Cambodian returnees.

Phase II begins

Phase II of the cease-fire began on 13 June. In the first four days, some 5,000 troops from three parties had cantoned, handing over to

UNTAC nearly 5,000 weapons and more than 140,000 rounds of ammunition.

An UNTAC spokesman said that, while practical and logistical difficulties had arisen at various sites, UNTAC was actively working to resolve them and help the three factions make the transition from a military to a civilian way of life.

At many locations where NADK was present, troops expressed an interest to regroup and canton, but said they must await instructions from their commanders before proceeding.

On 22 June, $880 million was pledged at the Ministerial Conference on the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia in Tokyo. The funds, which far exceeded the Secretary-General's appeal for $593 million and the UN Development Programme's (UNDP) estimates, will be used for humanitarian needs and for restoring the basic infrastructure of the country devastated by 13 years of war.

On 2 April, the Security Council agreed with the Secretary-General's proposal that UNTAC's military elements be composed of contingents from Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, Senegal, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom and Uruguay.

Secretary-General's visit

The Secretary-General, visiting Cambodia from 18 to 20 April, stated on arrival in Phnom Penh that he was "proud and delighted" to be in Cambodia as the UN, through UNTAC, proceeded with its "historic mission" to restore peace and democracy to that country.

His presence was intended to emphasize the importance the international community attached to the strict application of the Paris Agreements and the full implementation of UNTAC's mandate.

UNHCR/22006/M. Kobayashi

Some 50,000 refugees and displaced persons returned to Cambodia in the first three months of the operation.

The Cambodian parties must show that they had the political will to abandon all rancour and resentment and join together to take up the challenge of peace, he said.

While in Cambodia, the Secretary-General held meetings with Prince Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, and other UNTAC high-level officials. On 19 April, he inspected Battambang province in the country's northwest. The majority of the estimated 370,000 refugees in nearby border camps had expressed their desire to be resettled in that province. He also visited a receiving centre for repatriated refugees at O'Taki and inspected a demining training centre.

On 20 April, the Secretary-General attended an SNC meeting during which its members signed, in the name of Cambodia, the documents of accession to two main human rights instruments: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

A proposal on the exercise of the right of free expression was adopted at an SNC meeting on 7 May. It provides that all persons in Cambodia shall enjoy the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

Freedom of expression is regarded as fundamental to the conduct of free and fair elections, as envisaged in the Paris Agreements.

Refugees, mines

UNTAC continued to make progress in its effort to repatriate Cambodians wishing to return to their country.

As of 15 July, 50,000 Cambodian refugees and displaced persons had returned to their country since the beginning of the repatriation process on 30 March. The total included the first movement by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) of Cambodians choosing to return directly to Cambodia without passing through a reception centre.

Because there would probably be insufficient land in Cambodia's four northwestern provinces for returnees, UNHCR was seeking alternative options to resettle those refugees and displaced persons.

On 2 April, UNDP announced a massive emergency road rehabilitation plan in Cambodia to rebuild the main arteries for transporting returning refugees and displaced persons.

On 4 May, Mr. Akashi announced that the UN was organizing the Cambodian Mine Action Centre, to be headed by Prince Sihanouk, to train 5,000 Cambodians in mine clearance by the end of 1992. Mr. Akashi said mines would be a hazard in Cambodia "for years, possibly decades to come".

Western Sahara

Reactivation of settlement plan sought

The Security Council on 3 June welcomed the agreement by Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (POLISARIO) to engage in discussions with the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Sahabzada Yakub-Khan, with a view to reactivating the settlement plan for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

In a letter to the Secretary-General *(S/24059)*, Council members reaffirmed support for the efforts of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Mr. Yakub-Khan in that connection.

The plan calls for UN organization and supervision, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the Territory's people, who would choose between independence and integration with Morocco.

Council members said that they shared the Secretary-General's views on the need to maintain in place the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), currently deployed in the Territory to monitor the cease-fire.

On 29 May, the Secretary-General stated *(S/24040)* MINURSO's current military strength should be maintained to adequately monitor the cease-fire, established on 6 September 1991. He recommended that the Council extend MINURSO's mandate until the end of August 1992, bearing in mind the critical role its observers were playing for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity, pending the conflict's settlement.

Mr. Yakub-Khan had been assured by both parties that they would make every effort to adhere to the cease-fire agreement and to cooperate with MINURSO within the framework of the settlement plan, Mr. Boutros-Ghali reported, adding that he expected compliance with the cease-fire to improve significantly over the coming months.

The Secretary-General also hoped for substantial progress by the end of August to prepare for the referendum. However, if the peace process remained deadlocked, notwithstanding UN efforts, the Council might wish to consider a different approach.

Mr. Yakub-Khan had toured the area shortly after his appointment on 23 March. He also visited neighbouring countries from 19 to 30 April, meeting with King Hassan II of Morocco, the Secretary-General of POLISARIO, and the Heads of State of Algeria and Mauritania.

Mr. Yakub-Khan had concluded that the respective positions of the two parties remained far apart and that those differences continued to present serious obstacles to the implementation of the settlement plan.

At the same time, he had been encouraged to find that both parties continued to be committed to the plan as a framework for a just and permanent solution to the conflict. Additionally, both Algeria and Mauritania had promised their full support and cooperation to overcome existing obstacles and to facilitate the plan's execution.

At the tour's conclusion, Morocco and POLISARIO agreed to hold talks to reactivate the settlement plan. The Secretary-General said he expected both parties to cooperate and create an atmosphere conducive to the plan's smooth implementation.

Beginning on 11 June, Mr. Yaqub-Khan had a number of meetings with representatives of Morocco and POLISARIO in Geneva, Morocco, Algeria and New York.

As of 20 May, MINURSO had about 350 military personnel—including 229 UN military observers—a deployment essentially limited to monitoring and verifying the cease-fire.

UN Photo 179889/J. Isaac

The Secretary-General *(right)* meets with MINURSO Force Commander Armand Roy of Canada, who completed his assignment on 24 April.

Arms and air embargo goes into effect against Libya

UN Photo 179768/M. Tzovaras

Ali Ahmed Elhouderi of Libya presents his views.

An arms and air embargo against Libya went into effect on 15 April, in line with Security Council resolution 748 (1992). Imposed on 31 March by a vote of 10 to none, with five abstentions, the embargo was implemented after Libya failed to fully and effectively respond to requests by France, the United Kingdom and the United States to cooperate fully in establishing responsibility for the bombings of Pan Am Flight 103 and Union de transports aériens (UTA) Flight 772.

The Pan American plane exploded over Scotland on 21 December 1988, killing 270 persons. The UTA explosion over Niger on 19 September 1989 resulted in 160 deaths.

The embargo aims to prevent Libya from receiving arms and related material of all types. Resolution 748 also asked all Member States to deny permission to any aircraft to take off from, land in or overfly their territory, if it was going to or coming from Libya, unless the particular flight had been approved for significant humanitarian needs. Also prohibited was the supply of any aircraft or aircraft components to Libya, as well as the provision of engineering and maintenance servicing of Libyan aircraft or components.

Restrictions were also placed on diplomatic staff at Libyan diplomatic missions and consular posts abroad.

Court rules

On 14 April, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) handed down its ruling in The Hague on separate proceedings instituted by Libya on 3 March against the United Kingdom and the United States, based on the alleged involvement of two Libyan nationals in the Pan Am bombing. Charges had been brought against the two men by the Lord Advocate of Scotland and by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Libya contended that the United Kingdom and the United States, rejecting its efforts "to resolve the matter within the framework of international law", including the 1971 Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation, were pressuring Libya into surrendering the men for trial.

Libya had asked the ICJ President to call upon the parties to "enable any Order the Court may make on Libya's request for provisional measures to have its appropriate effects".

In its ruling, made by a vote of 11 to 5, the Court stated that "the circumstances of the case are not such as to require the exercise of its power under article 41 of the Statute to indicate provisional measures".

Judges from Japan, the United Kingdom, Poland, Italy, the United States, China, Norway, the Russian Federation, France, Guyana and Venezuela voted in favour of not invoking article 41, while judges from Algeria, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Nigeria and the Judge ad hoc for Libya voted against.

The Court also stated that Libya, the United States and the United Kingdom as UN members were obliged to accept and carry out the Council's decision. It also said that the rights claimed by Libya under the Montreal Convention "cannot now be regarded as appropriate for protection by the indication of provisional measures".

On 20 May, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said he had

so far not succeeded in his efforts to find a peaceful solution to the problem which, he stated, he was continuing to pursue, assisted by his Special Envoy, Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Petrovsky.

By resolution 731 (1992), adopted unanimously on 21 January, the Council had asked the Secretary-General to seek Libya's cooperation to provide a full and effective response to requests in establishing responsibility for the "terrorist acts" of the destruction of the two civilian aircrafts and the resultant loss of lives, "so as to contribute to the elimination of international terrorism".

On 11 May, Mr. Petrovsky met with the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, delivering a personal letter from the Secretary-General regarding the need for full and effective implementation, without delay, of resolution 731 in all its aspects". Mr. Petrovsky reported to the Secretary-General on 15 May in New York on the mission.

UN Photo 179754/M. Tzoveras

Sir David Hannay of the United Kingdom addresses the Council.

Libyan letter

On 14 May, Libya informed the Secretary-General *(S/23918)* that it accepted resolution 731. It decided that it "definitively renounces all forms of international terrorism of whatever origin". It said it was severing relations with groups and organizations involved in international terrorism of any kind. There were "no terrorist training camps or terrorist organizations or groups in its territory" and a committee from the Council, the UN Secretariat or any appropriate UN body was invited to investigate that at any time.

Libya also stated it would not "in any way permit its territory, its citizens or its institutions to be used directly or indirectly for the perpetration of terrorist acts". It would, it said, impose the severest penalties on anyone proved to be involved in such acts.

"The competent authorities in Libya have not rejected the principle of surrendering the two individuals under suspicion", Libya said. Also on 14 May, Libya told the Secretary-General *(S/23917)* it would undertake to deport from its territory any person who was proved to be involved in terrorist acts.

The Council on 15 April established a Committee, composed of all Council members, to handle issues relating to the implementation of sanctions against Libya. André Erdos of Hungary was named Committee Chairman.

Member States were asked to notify the Committee of measures they intended to take to fulfil the requirements of the mandatory sanctions under resolution 748. The Committee would also consider applications from States for flights to and from Libya for humanitarian purposes.

On 30 April, the Committee addressed an appeal worldwide for any information regarding violations or suspected violations of the mandatory sanctions against Libya.

On 29 April, Libya said *(S/23855)* it had never endangered international peace and security, and had put forward numerous initiatives to resolve the crisis. The aerial embargo, Libya stated, was causing multiple economic and social problems, specifically in the health sector. The embargo, it said, was "disastrous at the human level".

Attacks condemned

The Council on 2 April strongly condemned the violent attacks on and destruction of the Venezuelan Embassy in Tripoli earlier that day, and demanded that Libya immediately pay and fully compensate Venezuela for the damage caused, and take measures to protect all diplomatic and consular personnel and property in Libya from "acts of violence and terrorism".

The Council stated that any suggestion that those acts of violence were against and in reaction to resolution 748 was "extremely serious and totally unacceptable".

Libya offered apologies to Venezuela and the UN for "this deplorable incident", and appealed for restraint and the safeguarding of the security of foreign embassies and their staff.

The Secretary-General said he trusted that all measures would be taken by Libya to ensure the safety and security of foreign embassies and their personnel, the UN staff serving in Libya and all foreigners.

Growing consensus for UN role in talks on future of South Africa

Following contacts with South African leaders in Lagos, Nigeria, and Dakar, Senegal, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali noted a growing consensus for a UN role in talks on transitional arrangements leading to democratic rule in South Africa, a UN official stated on 2 July.

The precise nature of that role would have to be defined in agreement with the parties to those talks—known as the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA)—and the support of the Security Council would be needed for the UN to play such a role.

The Secretary-General had been invited to visit South Africa by its President, F. W. de Klerk. Although no date had been set, the invitation had been accepted in principle.

The Secretary-General on 29 June said that he had urged South African leaders to resume the talks that were called off by African National Congress President Nelson Mandela, following a massacre on 17 June when armed men randomly attacked residents of Boipatong and Slovo in the Johannesburg area. At least 39 people were killed.

In order to facilitate the establishment of a new South Africa, it was urgent to reach an agreement on arrangements for a transitional period in that country, including the establishment of an interim government, the Secretary-General had said on 16 June at the Special Committee against Apartheid meeting marking the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa, which commemorated the 1976 killing of student demonstrators by police in Soweto.

UN Photo 155271/IK Tannenbaum

Looking towards a new South Africa.

CODESA's second session—CODESA II—was held in Johannesburg on 15 and 16 May.

A UN official said the Secretary-General attached great importance to CODESA II and urged all representatives of the South African people to make a "concerted effort" at that meeting to "establish the foundation for a new constitution for a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa".

The head of the three-man UN observer delegation to CODESA II—Chinmaya Gharekhan, India's Permanent Representative to the UN—had described the session as "crucial" and said that South Africa's future would depend on the Convention's outcome.

The UN supported the negotiating process for a democratic South Africa. It participated as an observer in CODESA's first meeting in December 1991.

Positive discussions

In a statement to the twenty-eighth Assembly of Heads of State or Government of the Organization of African Unity in Dakar, the Secretary-General pointed out that he had had "positive" discussions in Dakar and Lagos with Mr. Mandela, South African Foreign Minister R. F. Botha, the Chairman of the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the representative of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania.

The Secretary-General had underlined his concern about the deteriorating situation in South

Africa resulting from the massacre and stressed the need for strong international cooperation. They discussed how best to stop the deteriorating situation, with special reference to the constructive role that the UN could play in reviving CODESA.

Appalled by massacre

On 19 June, the Special Committee against Apartheid said it was "appalled" by the 17 June massacre. The escalating violence in South Africa continued to demonstrate Pretoria's inability or unwillingness to end it, according to a statement issued by the Committee's Acting Chairman, Jayaraj Acharya of Nepal.

The Committee observed that the massacre's timing "lends additional credence to allegations that the violence is being orchestrated and is aimed at disrupting ongoing efforts to foster a peaceful political process".

The Committee called on Pretoria to "take firm and prompt action to identify the perpetrators of those killings, as well as their possible accomplices among the security forces, and to bring them to justice". It was also called on to ensure the implementation of all provisions of the National Peace Accord of 14 September 1991 and to impose, in particular, a total ban on the carrying of dangerous weapons.

Concern, regret

Two UN bodies—the Special Committee against Apartheid and the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa—have expressed concern and regret over the 6 April decision of the European Community to lift its oil embargo against South Africa, in effect since 1985. The Community also decided to formally lift its restrictive measures in the cultural, scientific and sporting fields.

While the Committee considered the political changes in South Africa as "significant impetus" to move negotiations forward, the process towards a non-racial democracy was, however, not yet irreversible.

On 16 April, Intergovernmental Group Chairman Anthony B. Nyakyi said that, while recognizing that some progress had been made in South Africa, neither an agreement on transitional arrangements nor on a new non-racial democratic constitution had been achieved. The Community's decision to lift the oil embargo tended to support one party only—the South African Government—in negotiations conducted within CODESA, rather than the CODESA process as a whole.

The oil embargo or other comparable policies against South Africa prohibiting the supply and shipment of oil and petroleum products to that country should be maintained and lifted only when the "appropriate conditions", as set forth in the 1989 Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, were met, he said.

UN seminar

A UN seminar, organized by the Special Committee and the Centre against Apartheid (22-24 May, Windhoek, Namibia), stating that the apartheid system in South Africa had left a deeply damaging socio-economic legacy, concluded that the critical situation faced by large segments of the population, notably the black community, must be urgently redressed, particularly in the areas of education, health, employment and housing.

The seminar aimed at contributing to the complex process of preparing future UN technical assistance to South Africa. Participants included prominent South Africans involved in social and economic policy-making, and representatives of UN agencies.

Council wants implementation of Angola peace accords

The Security Council on 7 July strongly appealed to the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) to "increase the momentum of progress on the issues of confinement of troops and weapons, demobilization and the formation of new armed forces and police", as called for in the May 1991 "Peace Accords for Angola".

In a statement read out by Council President José Luis Jesus of Cape Verde, the 15-member body expressed serious concern at constraints that were holding back the peace process, and appealed to the parties to overcome delays and inadequacies impeding that process.

The Angolan Government and UNITA were called on to devote all available resources to preparations for the multi-party elections scheduled for 29 and 30 September 1992.

Expressing concern over the political and security situation in Angola, the Council called for the termination of violent incidents, mutual accusations and hostile propaganda which, it said, should give way to tolerance, cooperation and reconciliation.

The Council also called on all parties to ensure the safety and security of staff and property of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II).

The statement was issued following Council consultations on a 24 June report *(S/24145)* of the Secretary-General on UNAVEM II.

A month of intensive negotiations

Issues delaying implementation of El Salvador peace pact resolved

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 19 June reported that the El Salvador Government and the Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) had resolved the issues that had been delaying the implementation process of the UN-brokered agreements aimed at bringing peace to El Salvador. With the assistance of the UN Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL), progress was achieved after a month of intensive discussions.

The Secretary-General on 26 May had also reported *(S/23999)* serious delays in implementing parts of the agreements signed between 4 April 1990 and 16 January 1992, which "had undermined each side's confidence in the other's good faith".

Among other things, problems were reported with regard to concentration of forces in designated locations, failure to establish a National Public Security Academy and to begin recruitment for the National Civil Police, reintegration of FMLN combatants to civilian life, and legalization of FMLN as a political party.

In his 26 May report, the Secretary-General said: "The agreements are complex and demand a commitment to compromise and fundamental adjustments in political and social attitudes." Also, they were not "self-executing".

Implementation had also been impeded by contradictory interpretations of specific provisions by both sides. That had led sometimes to exchanging public accusations, rather than working together with ONUSAL's good offices to find practical and pragmatic ways of giving effect to the agreement by honouring its spirit rather than insisting on legalistic interpretations.

Land tenure was one of the conflict's main roots, Mr. Boutros-Ghali said. He was grateful that both sides had honoured the commitments given in March to halt occupations of, and evictions from, lands while seeking a pragmatic solution.

Other thorny issues included restoration of public administration in zones of former conflict and questions relating to the former Treasury Police and National Guard. Those two bodies were to have been dissolved, thus exercising no further public security functions. Their personnel, after being transferred to the Armed Forces, were to be included in the reduction of those forces. However, the manner in which those bodies had been dissolved and the subsequent induction of some of their ex-members into the National Police had raised serious questions about whether the Government had complied with the agreement.

AP/Wideworld Photo

UN observers worked with the FMLN to map out security zones.

Contradictory interpretations

ONUSAL had from the outset taken the position that one breach of the agreement could not be used to justify another. The Secretary-General pointed out that the timetable for implementation was not a haphazard sequence of events. It was, on the contrary, an intricately designed and carefully negotiated mechanism to synchronize the reintegration of FMLN's ex-combatants into civilian life and the Government measures to facilitate that process, especially as regards agriculture, political activity and recruitment into the National Civil Police.

Complex, delicate tasks

Mr. Boutros-Ghali affirmed that ONUSAL had been entrusted with complex, varied and delicate verification tasks. In addition to these specific responsibilities, ONUSAL was also exercising its good offices to help implement the agreement. In those endeavours, it was supported by the "Friends of the Secretary-General"—Colombia, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela—as well as others in a position to help.

ONUSAL was operating in an atmosphere of deep distrust, he said, which might be an inevitable consequence of a long and bitter conflict. Its insistence on maintaining impartiality was sometimes misperceived by each side as partiality towards the other. Recently, anonymous threats had recurred against the Mission.

The views of Security Council members were reflected in a statement made on 3 June by Council President Peter Noterdaeme of Belgium following consultations. They expressed deep concern over the many delays in implementing the agreement, citing a "climate of mutual suspicion". If that situation were to continue, it would "jeopardize the very foundation" of the document, they added.

They also expressed pleasure that the cease-fire was holding and that there had not been a single violation since it came into force on 1 February. Both parties were urged to demonstrate good faith in implementing fully the peace agreement, to "abide by the agreed time-limits, to exert every effort to bring about national reconciliation in El Salvador and to implement the process of demobilization and reform".

Council members also reaffirmed their full support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, Iqbal Riza, with the assistance of the "Friends of the Secretary-General"and other Governments concerned.

They expressed their concern about threats to the safety of ONUSAL staff who were working under very difficult conditions. Parties were reminded of their obligation to guarantee the safety of ONUSAL and its members. Council members said they would continue to monitor closely developments in the implementation of the peace agreement.

Following intensive discussions among the parties concerned, with the assistance of ONUSAL, Mr. Boutros-Ghali, in a 19 June addendum to its report on ONUSAL *(S/23999/Add.1)*, expressed his "profound satisfaction at the constructive spirit" in which the two parties had resolved the impasse that was holding up progress in efforts to ensure the conclusion of the 12-year conflict that caused some 75,000 deaths and created more than 1 million refugees.

"I am confident that they will continue to demonstrate the same positive and pragmatic approach in the implementation of their remaining commitments", he said.

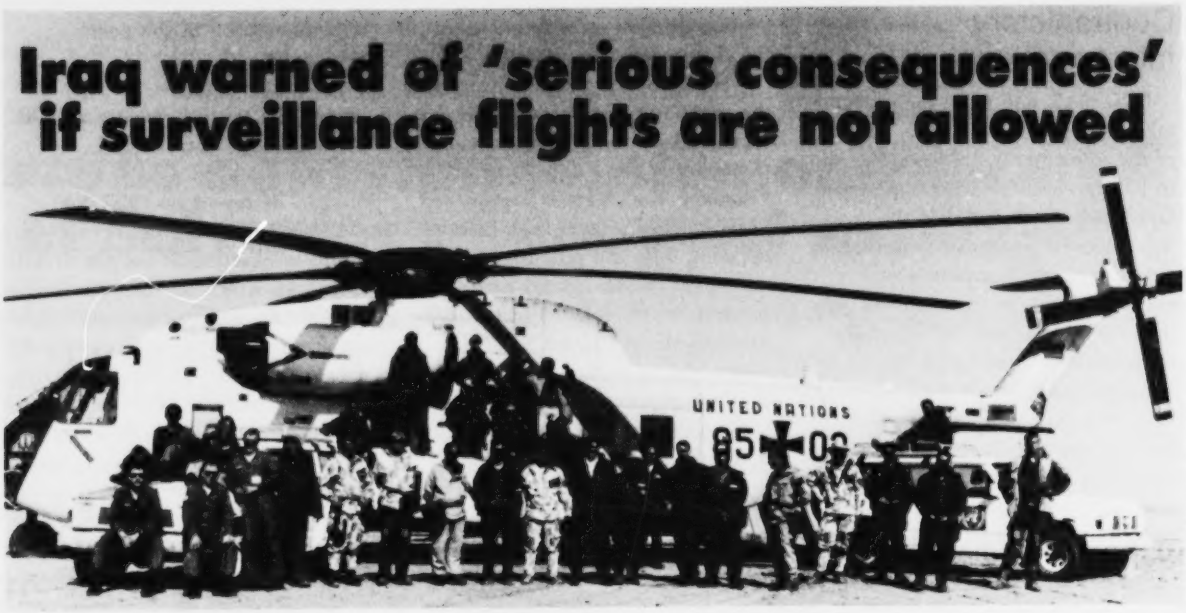
Certain dates mentioned in the agreed timetable had had to be rescheduled, he noted.

As stressed by the Secretary-General in his report, the UN is "committed to assist the two parties, but success will be assured only by their political will and their acceptance of national reconciliation as the overriding national goal".

UNHCR/20060/01

Children of Morazan Province. El Salvador's future hangs in the balance.

Iraq warned of 'serious consequences' if surveillance flights are not allowed



UN Photo 159066/H. Arvidson

A UN inspection team in Iraq.

The Security Council has warned Iraq of "serious consequences" if it failed to comply with its obligations to allow the Special Commission on Iraqi disarmament to conduct aerial surveillance flights over its territory.

The warning was contained in a 10 April statement read out by Council President Sambarashe Simbanenduku Mumbengegwi of Zimbabwe following Council consultations.

He said that Council members had learnt with grave concern from the Special Commission's Executive Chairman, Rolf Ekeus, "of recent developments which appear to call for a halt in and constitute a threat to the safety and security of the Special Commission's aerial surveillance flights over Iraq". Such flights were carried out under the authority of Council resolutions 687, 707 and 715 (1991).

Members, reaffirming the Special Commission's right to conduct surveillance flights, also called on Iraq to ensure that its military forces would not interfere with or threaten the security of the flights and to comply with its responsibilities to secure the safety of the Special Commission's aircraft and personnel while flying over Iraq.

Iraq informed the UN on 12 April that it would not interfere with the high altitude surveillance flights.

On 30 June, it was announced that the Special Commission had initiated on 21 June systematic aerial inspections of sites within Iraq using helicopters, conducted under the authority of Council resolutions. The flights would be an integral part of the Special Commission's inspections of Iraq's nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, and ballistic missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometres and the monitoring of Iraq's compliance with its obligations not to reacquire prohibited items.

During the first week of operations, the Special Commission had conducted four such flights. It was expected that those operations would continue at a rate of three to five missions a week.

Iraq not in compliance

In a 10 April report by the Secretary-General *(S/23801)*, the Special Commission said that it was not possible to begin the practical implementation of the plan for ongoing monitoring and verification *(S/22871/Rev.1)* of Iraq's compliance with UN disarmament measures, without clear acknowledgement by Iraq of its obligations under resolution 715 and without its agreement to implement those obligations unconditionally. In the absence of those steps on Iraq's part, the credibility of Iraq's declarations on its capabilities related to resolution 715 would be greatly undermined.

Under resolution 715 of 11 October 1991, Iraq was required to meet unconditionally all its obligations under the plan and cooperate fully with the Special Commission in carrying it out.

The plan covers the long-term monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with its unconditional obligations not to use, retain, possess, develop, construct or otherwise

acquire any weapons or related facilities and items prohibited under resolution 687 of 3 April 1991 relating to proscribed ballistic missiles, chemical and biological weapons and facilities. Monitoring and verification would need to cover not only military but also civilian sites, facilities, material and other items or activities that could be used in contravention of Iraq's obligations under resolution 687.

For that purpose, the plan provides for inspections in Iraq and aerial overflights and submission of information by Iraq, so that the Special Commission would be able to monitor and verify that no chemical or biological weapons, ballistic missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometres, or any other facilities and items prohibited under resolution 687 were reacquired.

Commission 'skeptical'

On 22 May, the Special Commission reported *(S/23993)* that further efforts to obtain Iraq's acknowledgement of and compliance with its obligations had failed to produce the desired results.

On 16 June, the Special Commission reported *(S/24108)* that, although it had achieved much, a number of actions remained to be done before it could report that Iraq was in substantial compliance with its obligations.

On 30 June, the Special Commission said that Iraq on 27 June had presented to it "reports on future compliance verification". Reports were required under the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification, adopted under resolution 715, in order to provide the base data for future monitoring. However, Iraq had yet to acknowledge its obligations under that resolution.

The Special Commission, at its third plenary session (4-6 May, New York), discussed the destruction of Iraq's chemical weapons, procedures for health, safety and environmental aspects of the Special Commission's work, and ongoing monitoring and verification activities to ensure that Iraq did not reacquire proscribed weapons.

On 27 May, the Council decided that the sanctions against Iraq should continue.

In a 29 June letter *(S/24217)* to the Secretary-General, Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein said Iraqis were suffering daily as a result of the decisions "imposed" on the Council's Sanctions Committee. Iraq, he said, had fulfilled its obligations under Council resolutions concerning sanctions against Iraq.

Nuclear, chemical inspections

The twelfth in a series of inspections of Iraq's nuclear capabilities took place from 26 May to 4 June. Eleven previous inspections were carried out between 14 May 1991 and 15 April 1992.

The International Atomic Energy Agency reported *(S/24110)* on 17 June that a plan for dismantling the electromagnetic isotope separation technique (EMIS) uranium enrichment production capabilities at the Tarmiya and Ash Sharqat sites was prepared and communicated to Iraq on 15 May.

The eighth in a series of inspections of Iraq's chemical capabilities took place from 15 to 29 April. (The first seven were held between 9 June 1991 and 4 February 1992.)

The team confirmed that Iraq had destroyed unilaterally large numbers of chemical munitions and that the numbers were consistent with Iraqi declarations. Visiting 20 sites, it was to verify Iraq's declaration unilaterally to have destroyed last summer 24,270 chemical munitions and quantities of chemical precursors. UN chemical-weapons destruction teams were also in Iraq from 21 February to 24 March and from 5 to 15 April.

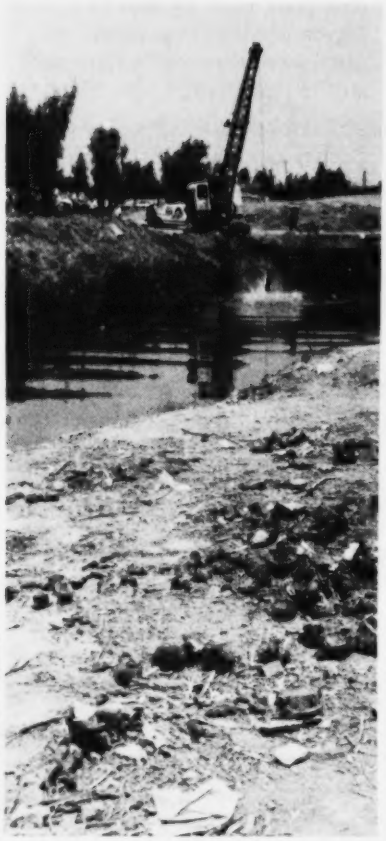
UN Photo 159097/H. Arvidsson

Monitoring air contamination after destruction of rockets.

Ballistic missiles

The tenth and eleventh inspections of Iraq's ballistic missile capabilities were carried out from 13 to 21 April and from 14 to 22 May. Nine previous inspections took place between 30 June 1991 and 29 March 1992.

The Chief Inspector of the tenth team said Iraq could no longer produce ballistic missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometres at three of its major production sites. The majority of buildings and equipment identified by the Special Commission as having been involved in the production of ballistic missiles had been destroyed.



UN Photo 159168/H. Arvidsson

Dredging the canal at Saqlavia, to search for missile parts.

Grave consequences

The Security Council on 17 June stressed to Iraq the inviolability of the international boundary being demarcated by the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission, set up under Council resolution 687, and the grave consequences that would ensue "from any breach thereof".

In a statement *(S/24113)*, Council members said they had noted with particular concern the 21 May Iraqi letter *(S/24044)* to the Secretary-General which appeared to call into question Iraq's adherence to resolution 687. They were particularly concerned that the letter might be interpreted as rejecting the finality of the Commission's decisions, which Iraq had formally accepted, notwithstanding the terms of resolution 687.

Council members expressed "dismay" over Iraq's references to "past Iraqi claims to Kuwait" without recalling that it had given up those claims through its acceptance of resolution 687. They firmly rejected any suggestion that would dispute the very existence of Kuwait, a UN Member State. They said the Commission was not reallocating territory between the two countries, but was simply carrying out the technical task necessary to demarcate the precise coordinates of the boundary between Kuwait and Iraq for the first time. Council members expressed complete support for the Commission's work.

The Commission has drawn the entire boundary line between the two countries, it was announced after the body's fifth session (8-16 April, New York). The Commission reviewed the field work of the joint New Zealand-Swedish survey team which provided the basis of the orthophoto mapping of the Iraq-Kuwait border area. Those maps were produced from the control survey and aerial photography taken by the joint team.

The Commission's independent experts had asked Iraq and Kuwait for relevant information and had made exhaustive analyses resulting in demarcation of the boundary.

Temporary boundary pillars had been placed at the northern end of Wadi Al Batin, at Safwan and at Umm Qasr. Final demarcation is expected by December 1992.

Other developments

Talks between the UN and Iraq on the possible resumption of Iraq's petroleum exports to meet the essential needs of its civilian population were held in Vienna on 22 June. Previous talks had been held also in Vienna in January and March.

A UN official said that most of the technical aspects left pending at the March session had been resolved but still needed political approval from Baghdad.

Through the end of June, no announcement had been made as to the outcome of the latest talks.

On 6 April, the Council agreed that the UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) be maintained in the area for a further six-month period, until 9 October 1992. The Mission was established by the Council on 9 April 1991 to monitor the Iraq-Kuwait border.

The Secretary-General reported *(S/23766)* that the demilitarized zone had been generally respected and that the area had been calm.

Major-General Timothy K. Dibuama of Ghana, Military Adviser to the Secretary-General, was appointed as UNIKOM's Chief Military Observer effective 12 July, succeeding Maj.-Gen. Gunther G. Greindl of Austria.

Iran and Iraq asked to desist from acts of violence

The Security Council on 7 April called on Iran and Iraq to desist from all acts of violence in conformity with its resolution 598 (1987), which called for a cease-fire between the two countries and in 1988 provided the framework for a cease-fire agreement.

The Council's action followed what Iraq called an attack on it on 5 April by Iranian Air Force planes.

Iran said it had taken "necessary and proportionate measures" in self-defence in response to an "armed and organized terrorist" operation against Iranian villages.

A UN team visited the incident site on 6 April. An inspection on the Iranian side of the border took place on 9 April.

On 20 April, Iraq called *(S/23827)* the Iranian allegations "unfounded".

Appeal for humanitarian assistance

Secretary-General calls for national unity in Afghanistan

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 5 June said that, with the establishment on 28 April of the new "Islamic State of Afghanistan", all Afghans must "spare no effort to consolidate peace, promote national unity and safeguard the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Afghanistan".

He also expressed deep concern over the "recent eruption of fighting in Kabul, involving many deaths and kidnappings". All parties concerned should exercise utmost restraint, resolve their differences through dialogue, and release those who had been kidnapped, he stated.

The greatest challenge facing Afghans and their leaders, he said in a statement issued at Headquarters, was the reconstruction and rehabilitation of their devastated country, and to facilitate the return of millions of Afghan refugees "who have been waiting for a decade to return to their homeland".

Mr. Boutros-Ghali launched an appeal for at least $180 million in emergency humanitarian assistance to help Afghanistan.

He emphasized the immense task of emergency relief and rehabilitation required in Afghanistan. New resources, extending through the end of 1992, would include a shortfall of over $76 million for the year in the continuing humanitarian and economic assistance programmes—known as Operation Salam—undertaken by the UN agencies.

Aside from the physical destruction, the results of the war included over 1 million people killed, 2 million disabled, 6 million refugees in neighbouring countries, and 2 million internally displaced persons. Historically, Afghanistan had been one of the world's poorest countries and, in the aftermath of the war, had the highest infant mortality rate and the lowest literacy rate in the world. He urged nations to see that "the people of this desperate land-locked country have a chance to better the miserable circumstances in which they live".

UN Photo 179733

Special Representative Sevan *(centre)* with tribal leaders.

Urgent needs identified

The most urgent needs were in the sectors of food aid, health (including water and sanitation), mine clearance and voluntary repatriation. Support was also needed for existing UN programmes in the fields of agriculture, education, rehabilitation of infrastructure and control of drug abuse.

A UN inter-agency team, led by Benon Sevan, the Secretary-General's Personal Representative in Afghanistan and Pakistan, had held consultations with the newly-established Government during a visit to Kabul from 11 to 15 May. It had also held earlier consultations with Iranian and Pakistani authorities.

Mr. Sevan, also on 5 June, told the press in New York that the UN had played an impartial role in mediating the political process. However, it was entirely up to Afghans to sort out their differences. The UN was encouraging the use of a dialogue, rather than force, to achieve that end.

The transfer of power on 28 April—from former President Sayid Mohammed Najibullah to the Mujahedeen Interim Council President Sibgatullah Mojadedi—had been, for the most part, peaceful, he said.

Differences between certain groups, although undesirable, should be considered normal under the circumstances. Any country having influence on an individual group should use that influence in a positive way to encourage a peaceful settlement of disputes.

On 30 April, the Secretary-General welcomed the establishment of an Interim Council in Kabul and the declaration of amnesty.

Ethnic issues and personal differences must be resolved or the world might be faced with another Yugoslavia, he said.

Set of ideas endorsed as 'appropriate basis' for overall agreement on Cyprus

UN Photo 180036/M. Grant

Talks with both sides continue. Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali meets with His Excellency Rauf Denktash on 18 June.

The Security Council has endorsed a set of ideas outlined by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali as an appropriate basis for reaching an overall framework agreement on Cyprus, provided outstanding issues were concluded as an "integrated package" mutually agreed upon by the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.

In unanimously adopting resolution 750 (1992) on 10 April, the Council laid particular emphasis on resolving the issues of territorial adjustments and displaced persons. All concerned were asked to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his representatives in clarifying without delay those outstanding issues.

The Council reaffirmed that a Cyprus settlement must be based on principles outlined in its resolutions 649 (1990) of 12 March 1990 and 716 (1991) of 11 October 1991.

Those principles were: that a State of Cyprus would have a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded; it would comprise two politically equal communities in a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation; and such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession.

The Council called upon the parties to adhere fully to those principles and negotiate "without introducing concepts that are at variance with them".

The Council stated that following completion of the set of ideas, it favoured convening a high-level international meeting chaired by the Secretary-General, in which the two communities and Greece and Turkey would participate. That would be "an effective mechanism" for concluding an overall framework agreement, the Council felt.

From 18 to 23 June in New York, the Secretary-General held separately a series of meetings with leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities—President George Vassiliou and His Excellency Rauf Denktash—respectively. A communiqué characterized the talks as "constructive and helpful". It said the conferees had "initiated discussions on the various issues of an overall framework agreement" on Cyprus in line with resolution 750. The talks would resume in New York on 15 July.

Seeking a fair solution

Mr. Boutros-Ghali on 3 April reported *(S/23780)* that the set of ideas provided elements of a fair solution on a significant number of elements of the overall agreement. If progress could be made on outstanding issues, in particular territorial adjustments and displaced persons, an overall solution would be within reach.

The ideas incorporated the following agreed understandings: Cyprus was the common home of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Their relationship was not one of majority and minority, but of two communities in the State of Cyprus. The Secretary-General's mission of good

offices was with the two communities, whose participation in that process was on an equal footing. The solution must be decided upon by, and be acceptable to, both communities. It must also respect the cultural, religious, social and linguistic identity of each community. The ideas also embodied the concept of the political equality of the two communities, as defined by the Secretary-General in his report of 8 March 1990 *(S/21183)*.

The two communities had rejected as options union, in whole or in part, with any other country and any form of partition or secession. They wanted a federation that was bi-communal as regards the constitutional aspects, and bi-zonal as regards the territorial aspects.

Each federated state would be administered by one community which would be guaranteed a clear majority of the population and land ownership in its area. The federal Government would not be permitted to encroach upon the powers and functions of the federated states, nor could one federated state encroach on the powers and functions of the other.

The country's unity was ensured through the State of Cyprus' single international personality and sovereignty, as well as its single citizenship, and the preservation of its territorial integrity.

The federal Government's powers and functions as foreseen would ensure the effective participation of the two communities, as well as the Government's effective functioning, and would include appropriate deadlock-resolving machinery. A bicameral legislature would have a lower house with a 70 to 30 ratio between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, and an upper house with a 50 to 50 ratio. All powers not vested in the federal Government would rest with the two federated states.

Fundamental rights of all citizens would be recognized in the federal constitution and implemented by the federated states in an agreed manner consistent with the federal constitution. Freedom of movement would be exercised as soon as the federal republic was established. Freedom of settlement and the right to property would be implemented after resettlement arising from territorial adjustments had been completed and would be regulated by the federated states.

The security of both communities would be guaranteed through the 1960 Treaties of Guarantee and of Alliance, each of which would be appropriately supplemented. It would provide for the withdrawal, by establishment of the federal republic, of all non-Cypriot forces not foreseen in the Treaty of Alliance, and machinery to deal effectively with any concern of either community.

A major programme of action would be established to correct the existing economic imbalance and promote development of the federated state administered by the Turkish Cypriot community. The question of membership in the European Communities would be submitted for approval of the two communities in separate referendums. An action programme to promote goodwill and closer relations between the two communities would be implemented.

UN Photo 180030/M. Grant

Paul Noterdaeme of Belgium, Security Council President *(right)*, greets President Vassiliou.

UNFICYP mandate extended

Troop cuts considered

On 12 June, the Security Council extended the mandate of the 2,141-strong UN Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for six months, until 15 December 1992. In unanimously adopting resolution 759 (1992), the Council asked for specific proposals before 1 September on the Force's restructuring, based on "realistic options available in current circumstances".

On 31 May, the Secretary-General reported *(S/24050)* an expected deficit of nearly $192.7 million.

After reviewing a number of options for UNFICYP's future organization and operations, he observed that the best option available was to reduce UNFICYP from the four existing battalions to three slightly larger battalions.

'Urgent work' remains

The Secretary-General in his report emphasized that urgent work remained to be done on territorial adjustments and displaced persons. The overall framework agreement would contain a map delineating the two federated states, so that a substantial number of Greek Cypriot displaced persons would be able to return to the area that would come under Greek Cypriot administration. It would also address effectively the needs of Turkish Cypriots affected by the territorial adjustments.

Grave concern expressed over deterioration of situation in Gaza Strip

The Security Council on 4 April expressed grave concern over the continued deterioration of the situation in the Gaza Strip. Four Palestinians were reported killed and at least 70 others wounded by Israeli security forces in Gaza on 1 April. Council members condemned all acts of violence and urged maximum restraint in order to end the violence.

Israel was urged by the Council to abide by its obligations under the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians in time of war and to act in accordance with relevant Council resolutions. Council members said they were concerned that any escalation of violence would have serious implications for the peace process, especially at a time when negotiations to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace were under way.

On 3 June, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali deplored the recent violent incidents in the Gaza Strip where tension remained high. He said he was especially concerned about the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians residing there, with respect to both their physical and economic well-being.

Participants in two UN special meetings have stressed the need for ensuring the protection of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The meetings, held in New York, were the Eighth UN North American Seminar on the Question of Palestine (22-23 June) and the Ninth UN North American Regional Non-Governmental Organizations Symposium on the Question of Palestine (24-26 June.)

UN Photo 157987/J. Isaac

Schoolgirls on a Gaza street.

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in a 17 June statement, drew the international community's attention to the continuing Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory.

The statement, issued on the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the end of the 1967 war, pointed out that Palestinians had expressed readiness to live in peace in a state of their own, alongside Israel.

UNDOF mandate renewed

The Council on 29 May decided unanimously to renew the mandate of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for a six-month period until 30 November 1992. The 1,296-member Force, established in 1974 to supervise the cease-fire between Israel and Syria in the Golan Heights areas, draws troops from Austria, Canada, Finland and Poland.

In adopting resolution 756 (1992), the Council also called on the parties to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973), calling for a cease-fire following the 1973 hostilities and the implementation of resolution 242 (1967), which sets out principles for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Hostages released

The Secretary-General on 17 June welcomed the release of two German hostages in Beirut that day. In a statement issued at Headquarters, he said the release constituted "a victory for all who believe in the rights and dignity of the human person". The two relief workers—Heinrich Strubig, 51, and Thomas Kemptner, 31—were released after more than three years of captivity in Lebanon.

UN backs efforts to resolve Nagorno-Karabakh dispute

The Security Council on 22 June heard an oral report by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on the findings of a UN fact-finding mission to Nagorno-Karabakh—an enclave in Azerbaijan, with a mostly Armenian population—and to Baku and Yerevan, the capitals of Azerbaijan and Armenia, respectively.

Following his oral report, a UN team was sent to Azerbaijan and Armenia to investigate allegations of chemical weapons use in the area.

Another UN mission visited the region from 21 to 28 May. It carried medicine and other humanitarian aid, and included a technical element to look into how the international community could provide prompt humanitarian assistance.

Following consultations, the Council, "preoccupied by the constant use of force in that region", appealed to all parties to adhere to the principles and procedures of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which was leading efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

CSCE-sponsored talks, intended to lay the ground for the proposed Minsk (Belarus) Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh, have been held in Rome. After three rounds of negotiations, little progress has been made because of the entrenched position of the parties concerned. A representative of the UN Secretary-General is participating in these talks.

UN Photo 179919/M. Tzovaras

Ambassador Hassan Hassanov of Azerbaijan

UN Photo 179967/M. Grant

Ambassador Alexander Arzoumanian of Armenia

UN team sent to Moldova

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 22 June expressed deep concern at the "escalation of violence" in the Republic of Moldova, which had caused "hundreds of victims". Moldova—a former Soviet republic—is now an independent State.

The Secretary-General called upon all parties concerned to end the "senseless fighting" and observe the utmost restraint. All efforts, he stressed, must be made to avoid an escalation in the confrontation and also to respect strictly human rights and protect minorities.

More than 600 people have been killed and 1,200 wounded since December 1991, when a referendum in the Trans-Dniester region led to a declaration of independence from Moldova. The Moldovan Government has refused to recognize the separatist republic, where Moldovans account for 40 per cent of the population, 28 per cent Ukrainians, and 25.5 per cent Russians.

On 27 June, a three-member UN fact-finding mission, led by Gilberto B. Schlittler, Director in the Department for Political Affairs, arrived in Kishinev, the Moldovan capital.

On 30 June, the Secretary-General expressed concern that mission members had been the target of a sniper attack on 29 June in Bendery in the Trans-Dniester region. He said the mission had been sent with the Security Council's backing and had every right to expect the full cooperation and respect of all parties concerned.

Before leaving the region, the head of the mission attended as observer a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Romania and Ukraine held in Moscow on 3 July.

Cuban complaint against United States considered

On 21 May, the Security Council considered a complaint made by Cuba on what was termed "terrorist activities" against the country, "promoted, encouraged or tolerated" by the United States. Specifically, it cited the mid-air destruction near Barbados on 6 October 1976 of a Cuban civilian aircraft which resulted in 73 deaths.

The Council, after hearing statements by both countries, adjourned without taking any action on a draft resolution *(S/23990)* submitted by Cuba.

The Council, Cuba said, should demand that the United States hand over to Cuban courts the two exiles who it alleged had executed the act.

Under the Cuban draft resolution, the Council, acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, would have condemned "the act of sabotage" and called on States to help investigate that incident and punish the guilty parties.

Cuba, in a 27 April letter *(S/23850)* to the Council President complained about the organization of "terrorist" military groups in the United States with the aim of invading Cuba.

In debate, Ricardo Alarcón de Quesada of Cuba said that the matter had not been appropriately and finally dealt with. American authorities had decided from the outset to pursue a cover-up and continued to help the guilty parties evade justice, he said.

Edward J. Perkins, the new Permanent Representative of the United States, called the Cuban allegations baseless, "invented to serve transparent political objectives". The United States had condemned the "cowardly in-flight bombing" of the Cuban aircraft. Cuba's attempt to portray the United States as a supporter of international terrorism was, he said, "absurd".

UN Photo 179988/M. Grant

Ambassador Ricardo Alarcón de Quesada of Cuba displays allegations before the Council.

Call for peaceful resolution of Liberian conflict

The Security Council on 7 May stated that the Accord signed on 30 October 1991 in Yamoussoukro, the capital of Côte d'Ivoire, offered the "best possible framework for a peaceful resolution of the Liberian conflict by creating the necessary conditions for free and fair elections in Liberia".

That agreement, signed by the Committee of Five of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)—representing Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Senegal and Liberia—called for the immediate encampment and disarmament of combatants, and the holding of democratic elections in Liberia.

In a statement read out by Council President Peter Hohenfellner of Austria following consultations, the Council renewed its call to all parties to the conflict to "respect and implement the various accords of the peace process", including refraining from actions which endanger the security of neighbouring States.

On 22 January 1991, the Council had called on the parties to the conflict in Liberia to continue to respect the 24 October 1990 cease-fire agreement and to cooperate fully with ECOWAS to restore peace and normalcy in that country. The Council had also welcomed the resumption of the UN emergency programme in Liberia following the acceptance of a cease-fire.

On 7 April, the Committee of Five, in its final communiqué *(S/23863)*, noted positive developments, including the appointment of members of the Interim Elections Commission and the ad hoc Supreme Court, the completion of reconnaissance visits by the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group to the areas held by the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, and the opening of some trunk roads in the country.

However, many other important aspects of the Yamoussoukro Accord had remained unimplemented, particularly those relating to the establishment of a buffer zone along the Sierra Leone-Liberia border, and the encampment and disarmament of all combatants.

Palau very near 'a decisive choice' about its status, Trusteeship Council told

Palau's desire to end trusteeship at an early date and the firm support of the Administering Authority —the United States—for a speedy settlement of the Territory's political status were stressed by the Trusteeship Council at its fifty-ninth session (26 May-2 June, New York).

Palau is one of four entities that formed the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. By resolution 683 (1990) of 22 December 1990, the Security Council terminated the Trusteeship Agreement for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, which had approved Compacts of Free Association with the United States, and for the Northern Mariana Islands, which had opted for Commonwealth status.

In adopting without a vote its conclusions and recommendations, the Council noted the Administering Authority's assurances that it would continue to assist the people of Palau to "attain greater economic self-sufficiency through responsible economic development".

The session welcomed the improvements reported by the UN Visiting Mission to Palau (25 March-1 April) in such sectors as tourism, fisheries and public health. It acknowledged, however, the continuing problem of illegal fishing in Palauan waters and noted the need to improve the level of economic and social development.

Council President Jean Felix-Paganon of France said the Visiting Mission had confirmed that Palau was "no doubt very near a decisive choice as to its final status". The terms of that choice were the adoption of an agreement of free association with the United States or, "if that should prove to be impossible", independence.

Palauans were determined to put an "honourable end" to the trusteeship, Santos Olikong, Minister of State of Palau, told the Council on 26 May. A constitutional amendment referendum would seek an electoral agreement to change the required 75 per cent approval of a Compact of Free Association with the United States that had frustrated seven previous plebiscites. Should that pass favourably, another Compact plebiscite would follow.

A report by the Administering Authority stated that the Compact was its "preferred option". But if Palau wished independence, the United States was prepared to consider that. It had met its obligation under the Trusteeship Agreement and no reason remained to "perpetuate the obsolete relationship".

Stella Guerra, United States Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Territorial and International Affairs, hoped that the Council's collective effort would lead to early termination of the last trusteeship.

Trusteeship Council members are the United States, as the Administering Authority, and China, France, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom serving as permanent members of the Security Council.

UN Photo 114992/Y. Nagata

Voters in Palau.

Towards transparency

Disarmament Commission urges military information exchange

UN Photo 179849/M. Tzovaras

Commission Chairman Andre Erdos *(centre)* with Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Petrovsky *(left)* and K. C. Lin, Commission Secretary *(right)*.

The Disarmament Commission has called upon States to promote an exchange of objective information on military matters. Also at its 1992 session (20 April-11 May, New York), it recommended that the General Assembly study ways to ensure greater comparability of nationally supplied data.

In concluding consideration of an item dealing with objective information on military matters—one of four substantive items on its agenda—the Commission agreed that the UN Standardized System of Reporting on Military Expenditures should be continued and improved as a global basis for providing "objectively and comprehensively comparable information".

At the end of the three-week session, the Commission adopted its report to the General Assembly *(A/47/72)*, which detailed the work of its four working groups. Among other things, the body called upon States to provide objective information on nuclear armaments, other weapons of mass destruction, the transfer of high technology with military applications, imports and exports of conventional arms, military holdings and procurement through national production and relevant policies.

The other substantive items considered during the 16-day session were: the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security; a regional approach to disarmament; and the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields.

Out of the shadows . . .

In an opening statement, Commission Chairman André Erdös of Hungary said the current session, held "against a background of transformations on the international scene", constituted a "watershed in the history of the United Nations". Commission members should "exploit every chance offered by the improving international climate".

Vladimir Petrovsky, the new Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, told the Commission that, as the world emerges "from the shadows of past confrontations" and moves progressively towards a "new situation characterized by increasing hopes for greater peace and security", the international community must seize the opportunity accorded by the UN to promote and enhance that process.

The momentum that had been generated "should not be allowed to dissipate", he added. The full range of the UN disarmament machinery should be "utilized in a more constructive and innovative manner . . . commensurate with the new challenges and demands".

In considering the item on nuclear disarmament, delegations noted the tangible steps taken by the international community during the past year, which had had a positive effect on reducing nuclear arsenals. However, further action was required.

Representatives stated that nuclear proliferation was a "permanent possibility" as long as nuclear weapons existed, and there could be "no room for complacency".

Prevention, however, was "better than cure" and it was thus imperative to strengthen the current safeguards regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

According to the Commission's report, although there was a continuing divergence of views on major substantive issues of nuclear disarmament, the focus on specific aspects had "provided a springboard for the future".

Achieving consensus, avoiding details . . .

Carl-Magnus Hyltenius of Sweden, Chairman of Working Group I which reviewed the item on objective information, commended the "constructive atmosphere and willingness of the delegations to cooperate". The Group had been trying to achieve consensus and, "by avoiding too many details, to work out a mutually acceptable text".

In debate, delegates stressed that openness and transparency, although not a disarmament measure in itself, increased confidence among nations and made the public aware of the dangers and wastes of the arms race. However, the exchange of objective information, as Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg of Brazil stated, could not be a "substitute for earnest endeavours and concrete measures in the field of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament".

Under new working arrangements set out by the Assembly, the Commission limits its working agenda to a maximum of four substantive items. No items are to remain under consideration for more than three consecutive years.

The Commission reported that the subjects before Working Group II—the relationship between nuclear disarmament and international security, and the steps taken in the process of nuclear disarmament and in the strengthening of such process, as well as the role of the UN system—had been further elaborated, and it was hoped that "consensus on a document can be reached at the next session".

Among specific issues considered were: the doctrine of deterrence; a non-discriminatory and comprehensive global regime of non-proliferation; the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate Range and Shorter-Range Nuclear Missiles (INF) and the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) Treaty, as well as subsequent unilateral and bilateral steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States towards nuclear arms reduction; moratoriums on nuclear testing by France and the Russian Federation; and a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing.

Such issues as ensuring the safe transfer and environmentally-sound disposal of existing nuclear weapons, as well as the strengthened roles of the UN system, the Conference on Disarmament and the IAEA were also discussed.

No automatic guarantee . . .

Referring to regional arms reduction, Commission Chairman Erdös said last year's events in the Persian Gulf, as well as more recent developments in Europe and elsewhere, served as a "constant reminder that the new world and the long-envisioned system of collective security would not come into existence by themselves, and even progress along that road did not automatically guarantee the maintenance of peace, security and justice".

Regional disarmament was considered by Working Group III as an integral part of the entire process of arms reduction. Delegates focused on the relationship between regional disarmament and global security, and explored conditions under which regional initiatives could help promote efforts at the global level and how developments at the global or extra-regional level could affect regional efforts. Further work on concrete recommendations in this area is expected in 1993.

The neutrality of science and technology . . .

Science and technology *per se* were deemed to be neutral with regard to international security, and their applications for peaceful purposes should be promoted, Working Group IV reported. However, improvements in their application for military purposes might have positive as well as negative implications. In that regard, a qualitative arms race was of grave concern.

Delegates agreed that collective consideration of the destabilizing potential of scientific and technological developments was an "urgent joint endeavour". Some felt that the exercise of political judgement was a key factor in determining the impact of the use of science and technology for international security. It was also stated that the transfer of high technology with military applications needed to be addressed.

The Group "deepened its debate of the question of science and technology for disarmament". The issue of access to disarmament-related technologies required for the effective implementation of disarmament agreements was particularly relevant, the report stated.

A proposal to seek universally acceptable international norms or guidelines to regulate international transfers of sensitive technologies was considered. Such norms should take into account legitimate requirements to maintain international peace and security, while ensuring that they did not deny access to high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes. The need to widen multilateral dialogue was recognized.

Chemical weapons draft presented to Conference on Disarmament

A draft compromise text of the future Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction was submitted to the negotiators at the Conference on Disarmament by the end of the second part of its 1992 session (11 May-26 June, Geneva).

If endorsed by the Conference, the draft would be submitted to the General Assembly for approval at its forty-seventh session, and be opened for signature and ratification by States. The work on a chemical-weapons ban convention had been going on for more than a decade.

In the view of Adolf von Wagner of Germany, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, the key components of the "overall compromise package" may be looked upon separately, but their real significance flows from their entirety. The comprehensive scope of general obligations banned "all conceivable actions in contravention to the object and purpose of the treaty in an absolutely non-discriminatory way".

The draft, he stated, contained built-in safeguards to deal with situations where basic obligations were not respected, and also "very clear and unambiguous provisions" on the destruction of chemical weapons and their production facilities. The "evolutionary concept" for economic and technological development, in conjunction with an "equally evolving" confidence-building regime of verification, "opens the door to increased and intensified cooperation and exchange in the future", he affirmed.

Conference President Paul O'Sullivan of Australia told delegates that, if it had been able, despite differences, to reach a "level of mutual tolerance" that had provided a "concrete result in the form of a chemical-weapons convention", there was reason to be optimistic about the Conference's capacity to "make other wise judgements".

Serguei Batsanov of the Russian Federation said that United States President George Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in their "Joint Statement on Chemical Weapons" issued in Washington on 17 June, had "expressed their conviction" that the Geneva negotiations on a multilateral convention banning chemical weapons could be concluded by the end of August. Both had agreed to "instruct their representatives accordingly" and called on all participants in the negotiations to "do their utmost" to achieve that goal.

In other action, the Conference added to its agenda the question of transparency in armaments. It acted in response to the Assembly's request to address, as soon as possible, the interrelated aspects of the "excessive and destabilizing accumulation" of arms and to elaborate "universal and non-discriminatory practical means" to increase openness and transparency in that field.

A 'totally different perspective'

The end of the cold war and the start of major arms reductions had placed disarmament in a "totally different perspective", Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Vladimir Petrovsky told the Conference on 14 May. Arms control and disarmament were the "constituents of an international security agenda in which issues should be addressed through preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping".

UN Photo 159096/H. Arvidsson

Rockets, which had contained nerve gas, destroyed in Iraq.

UN Photo 158838

Verification is an important element of the proposed treaty.

Although the threat of conflict among the major Powers had declined "practically to the point of non-existence", that did not render the pursuit of disarmament "irrelevant or obsolete", he added. The recent "major upsurge" in ethnic and intra-State tensions posed a "severe challenge to traditional methods of conflict resolution".

He believed that one of the areas where "innovative thinking and concerted diplomatic effort" were urgently needed was the continuing spread of the "tools and technologies of mass destruction".

In debate, delegates called for a comprehensive nuclear-test ban. Some believed that it had to be immediately followed by substantial reductions leading to complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Others viewed the ban as essential to effectively halting the proliferation of nuclear weapons and preventing environmental and health risks associated with underground nuclear explosions.

Stating that nothing was more important than the prevention of nuclear proliferation, Canada presented a plan, announced by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on 21 May, to halt the spread of nuclear weapons.

The plan suggested that: "nuclear cheating" be stopped; the mandate of the International Atomic Energy Agency be strengthened and its resources increased; controls be tightened on the export of nuclear-weapons technologies; the sale of "nuclear brainpower to pariah States" wishing to develop or strengthen their nuclear-weapons potential be stopped; and security cooperation be strengthened regionally so as to reduce the underlying causes of tension, particularly in "global hot-spots", such as the Indian subcontinent, the Korean peninsula and the Middle East.

Canada would terminate all of its economic cooperation programmes, including aid and tariff preferences, with any country that undermined the 1968 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), "through action or inaction". Besides, the 1995 Review Conference on the NPT should confirm the Treaty's "basic bargain"—a commitment of the nuclear Powers to reduce nuclear weapons in return for a commitment by non-nuclear States not to acquire such weapons.

Indian Ocean Committee calls for new approaches

The Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean has recommended that new alternative approaches should be considered by the General Assembly to achieve the goal of establishing the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. The 44-member body, at its 1992 session (18-22 May, New York), stated that "existing important principles" should be built upon, taking into account the changing international situation.

The Committee, at the beginning of the session, was informed that France, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as some other major maritime users of the Indian Ocean, had withdrawn from participation in a proposed conference to implement the 1971 Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Committee stated that it might not be possible to hold the Conference in 1993, as recommended by Assembly resolution 46/49. The meeting, initially set for 1981, has been postponed several times.

Reiterating the importance of achieving the goals of the 1971 Declaration, the Committee called on the Security Council's permanent members and the major maritime users to participate in all efforts to establish the area as a zone of peace, recommending that the Committee Chairman continue informal consultations in that regard.

At the close of the session, Chairman Stanley Kalpage of Sri Lanka said the Committee had managed in five days to "breathe new life" into work that had been going on for 20 years. However, there still was "need for confidence-building" among Committee members, who "must not talk to each other in cold war rhetoric, but in terms that would promote the goals of the Declaration".

Outer Space Committee

Draft principles on nuclear power recommended to Assembly

UN Photo 180026/M. Grant

Committee Chairman Peter Hohenfellner of Austria *(right)*, with Ian Axford, President of the Committee on Space Research.

A draft set of principles relevant to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space was recommended for adoption to the General Assembly by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as it concluded its thirty-fifth session (15-26 June, New York).

The principles would restrict the use of those sources in space to missions which could not be operated by non-nuclear energy sources. They would call for comprehensive safety assessments and notification of the imminent re-entry into the atmosphere of malfunctioning space objects with radioactive materials on board.

The principles would have launching States bear international responsibility for activities involving the use of nuclear power sources in outer space. Each State launching a space object would be internationally liable for damage caused by it. Compensation would include reimbursement for expenses associated with search, recovery and clean-up operations.

States were invited to report regularly to the Secretary-General with regard to research on the safety of nuclear-powered satellites. Further study into the possible collision of nuclear power sources with space debris was also called for.

The principles, contained in the Committee's report *(A/47/20)*, had been developed over 13 years of debate. Their approval, according to Committee Chairman Peter Hohenfellner of Austria, was a "historic" moment in the Committee's work. The primary achievement of that agreement was "in keeping with the spirit of compromise", he added. All delegations had demonstrated an "admirable sense of responsibility".

'Global perspective from space'

Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Vladimir Petrovsky told the Committee that the theme of the International Space Year (1992)—"Mission to Planet Earth"—stressed the importance of understanding the earth as a single, complex and interdependent system. The "global perspective from space" allowed consistent monitoring that was essential for directing actions for environmental protection.

The UN should promote the applications of space activities for improving the everyday lives of peoples worldwide, and for economic and social development, he continued. The use of space technologies, such as satellite communications and remote sensing, could improve the UN's capacity to "effectively promote peace, security and development within its limited resources".

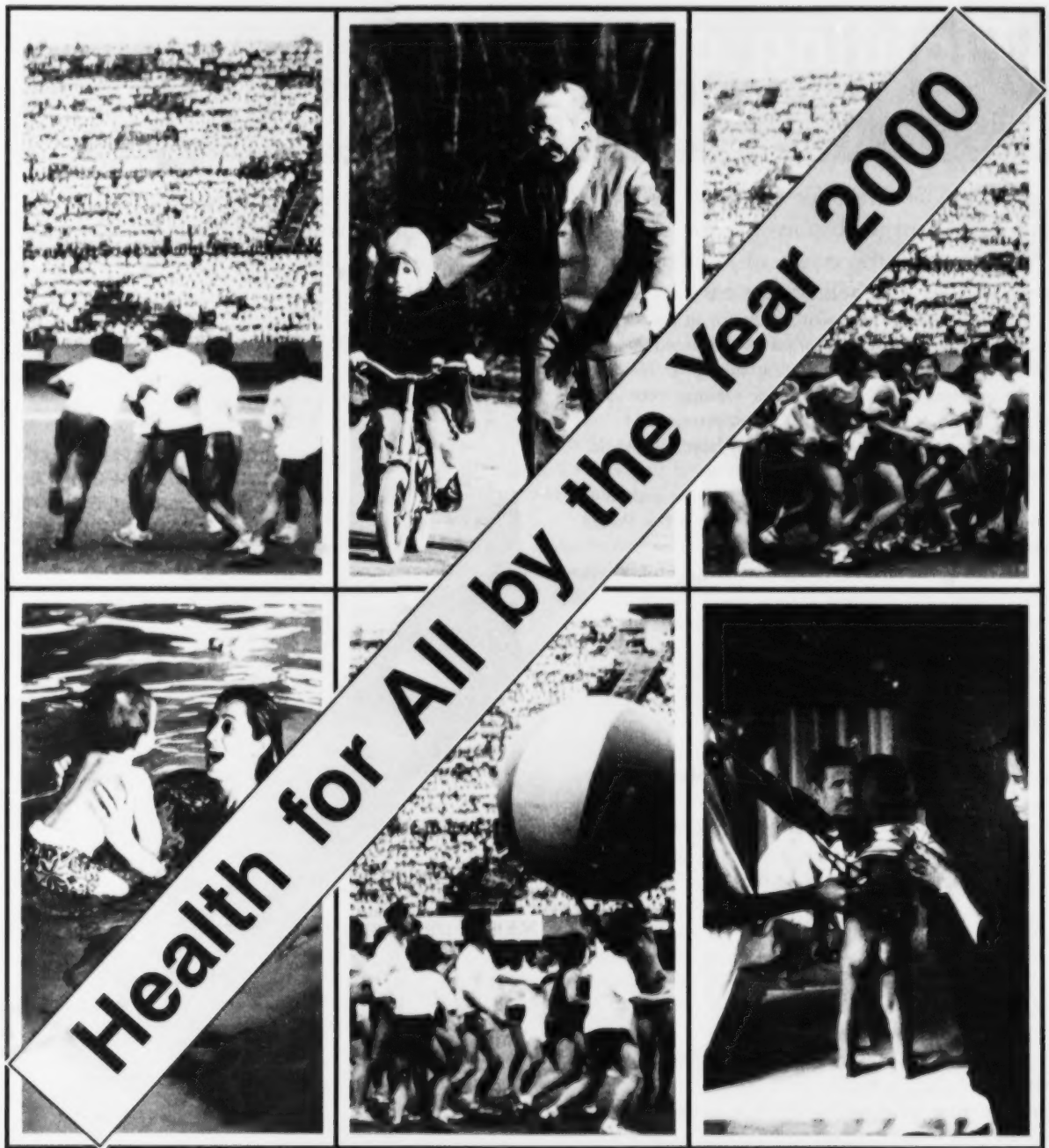
UNISPACE '82

The Committee noted that many of the recommendations of the UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE '82) had not been fully implemented. It urged continuing international efforts to ensure the continuity and compatibility of systems for remote sensing of the earth. The Committee agreed to discuss at its next session the principles on remote-sensing activities adopted in 1991 by the Assembly. Those principles would be developed into some form of an international agreement.

The Committee recommended that its Legal Sub-Committee should continue consideration of questions relating to the geostationary orbit—the only orbit which permits continuous contact between a satellite and a single ground station.

The Committee agreed that spin-offs of space technology were yielding substantial benefits in such fields as industrial measurement and control, image and data processing, temperature control, computer systems, special materials and chemicals, food safety, water treatment and refrigeration.

India proposed that a third UNISPACE Conference be held in 1995, preferably in a developing country, with a view to building up the momentum provided by the International Space Year and promoting increased participation of developing countries in space activities.



WHO Photos

Since the end of the Second World War, the World Health Organization and its partners in the international community have fought an unremitting battle against ill-health and disease. Over the past decade, the main target of this concerted campaign has been the achievement of "Health for All by the Year 2000". The global challenge—to attain for people everywhere a level of health which enables socially and economically productive lives—spans the world, and is as diverse as the individuals in it.

Fighting disease Fostering health

On 26 October 1977, an event occurred unique in human history: an ancient scourge responsible for killing, blinding and disfiguring millions of people since the dawn of civilization made one last appearance before being eradicated from the face of the earth.

In the small coastal town of Merka in southern Somalia, a 23-year-old hospital cook named Ali Maow Maalin was diagnosed as having smallpox. He was isolated and treated, and no further victims were identified. The thirty-third World Health Assembly subsequently certified that that had been the world's last case.

Thus, smallpox became the first disease ever to be eliminated by vaccination. Its conqueror: the World Health Organization (WHO).

One of 16 specialized agencies within the UN system, WHO was not only responsible in large measure for creating the political commitment necessary to undertake the global eradication effort against smallpox, it also provided the scientific expertise, channels of communication, and coordination of health programmes necessary to do the job.

A kind of international health cooperative of 179 member States, WHO has unique potential for organizing global efforts in disease prevention and health promotion. The eradication of smallpox is just one achievement in its 44-year history. Most recently, its Expanded Programme on Immunization had succeeded by 1990 in protecting 80 per cent of the world's children against six major diseases. Other WHO control programmes virtually eliminated onchocerciasis (river blindness) from large areas of West Africa and have brought guinea-worm disease (dracunculiasis) close to extinction.

But WHO still has many battles to wage. The organization reports: "Tropical diseases seem to have gone on a rampage, with cholera spreading to the Americas for the first time this century, yellow fever and dengue epidemics affecting even greater numbers, and the malaria situation deteriorating."

WHO also notes grimly that the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) pandemic is spreading globally, as are genital herpes and sexually transmitted chlamydial disease. Pulmonary tuberculosis is on the increase, partly stimulated by combined infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Pneumonia and hepatitis B remain serious threats.

The eighth WHO report on the world health situation continues: The number of cancer cases in the developing world is for the first time greater than that in developed countries. Lung cancer has overtaken breast cancer as the leading cancer in females in some developed countries. Diabetes is emerging as a major problem in some developing countries. Blindness (especially cataract) is more common. Alcohol-related diseases are more frequent, as are mental problems and suicide (particularly in developed countries).

WHO/1607/P. Almasy

Tracking one of the last outbreaks of smallpox.

Primary health care

The emphasis of WHO's work has gradually evolved from disease control to health promotion. In 1977, WHO member States at the thirtieth World Health Assembly forged a broad common goal—"Health for All by the Year 2000". In so doing, delegates firmly placed the emphasis of international health campaigns on equity—health for all—and on urgency, as conveyed by the clear deadline. It did not mean, however, that by the turn of the century all disease and disability would vanish miraculously.

WHO's key to achieving the "Health for All" goal is an approach called primary health care—providing essential health care based on practical, scientifically sound and socially acceptable methods and technology. Emphasizing a blend of professional health services, personal responsibility for one's own health and community action, primary health care aims to provide people with access to existing tools for preventative health care and disease control.

For example, immunization is already preventing more than 3 million child deaths each year from vaccine-preventable diseases; easily-administered oral rehydration therapy could also prevent many of the 3.2 million child deaths from diarrhoeal disease annually; and more than half a million women in the developing world need not die from preventable complications related to pregnancy.

In 1978, the International Conference on Primary Health Care, jointly convened by WHO and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Alma Ata in the former Soviet Union, defined several components as indispensable to the primary health care approach: education to prevent and control health problems; promotion of proper nutrition; an adequate supply of safe water and basic sanitation; provision of maternal and child health care, including family planning; immunization against major infectious diseases; prevention and control of locally endemic diseases; appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries; and provision of essential drugs.

In the 1980s, WHO concentrated its primary health care efforts on "spinning individual threads, corresponding to the different WHO programmes, such as those dealing with diarrhoeal diseases, acute respiratory infections, immunization, essential drugs, tropical disease research and so on", according to Dr. Ralph Henderson, Assistant Director-General of WHO. "The 1990s will have to be the decade in which we weave these threads into a comprehensive primary health care fabric."

For example, the Bamako Initiative, a joint effort launched by WHO and UNICEF at a regional meeting of African Ministers of Health in the Malian capital in September 1987, aims to weave a new fabric for Africa, where almost half the continent has no access to basic health care, by providing accessible, affordable and sustainable care through community involvement in management and financing.

Universal access to integrated health services of acceptable quality, with particular emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention, was further called for by the forty-fifth World Health Assembly (4-14 May, Geneva).

The second evaluation of the progress towards health for all—covering the period 1985 to 1990—notes a substantial improvement in global health status, as reflected by decreasing infant mortality rates and increasing life expectancy at birth.

Health for All: Global targets

The global strategy to achieve "Health for All by the Year 2000" was formulated by WHO member States at the thirty-fourth World Health Assembly in 1981. The strategy aims to provide continuous, progressive improvement of the health status of populations, through national health systems that provide health promotion, disease prevention, and curative and rehabilitative services to all. The global targets of the strategy are:

1. All people in every country will have ready access at least to essential health care and first-level referral facilities.

2. All people will be actively involved in caring for themselves and their families as far as they can and in community action for health.

3. Communities throughout the world will share with Governments responsibility for the health care of their members.

4. All Governments will assume overall responsibility for the health of their people.

5. Safe drinking-water and sanitation will be available for all people.

6. All people will be adequately nourished.

7. All children will be immunized against the major infectious diseases of childhood.

8. Communicable diseases in the developing countries will be of no greater public health significance in the year 2000 than they were in developed countries in the year 1980.

9. All possible ways will be applied to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases and promote mental health through influencing lifestyles and controlling the physical and psychosocial environment.

10. Essential drugs will be available to all.

Nevertheless, cautioned the evaluation, the health gap between the least developed countries and other developing countries is widening, and achievements in access to health care are unevenly spread.

New health paradigm

Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, WHO Director-General, told the 1,200 Assembly delegates in 1992 that the goal "Health for All" remains valid. "We must recognize, however, that the year 2000 is just around the corner, and that long-term action must look way ahead into the twenty-first century."

Calling for a "new paradigm for public health action" to accelerate the achievement of health for all, he outlined four "key orientations" which will provide the main thrust of WHO's strategy in the future:

- Reasserting the rights and responsibilities of individuals, families and communities in the protection and promotion of health;
- Ensuring access to health care, especially to countries and populations in most need;
- Mobilizing all resources for health and ensuring their optimum use; and
- Evaluating public health action, both for disease control and its impact on socioeconomic development.

"Health for all means not only health for all people, but also health during each phase of an individual life cycle", Dr. Nakajima told the WHO Executive Board in January.

Health and development

Fundamental to this broader vision of health is the linkage between health and development. While it was once assumed that economic growth would by itself improve public health, it is clear that development strategies have in fact increased vulnerability, and consequently poor health, in many parts of the world.

Participants at a recent international forum on health and development (4-6 December 1991, Accra, Ghana) stressed that quality of life was intrinsically linked to the capacity to protect human health. They called for health to be added to other major criteria in assessing the quality of development strategies.

As the links between health and other social, economic and political issues become clear and the post-cold-war world creates new expectations from the UN system, cooperation and coordination among the various UN organizations and specialized agencies becomes increasingly important.

Furthermore, three major issues related to health systems development must be re-examined: coverage, accessibility, and quality.

Coverage can no longer be simply a question of numbers. "What is just as important", said Dr. Nakajima, "is the existence of proper facilities which allow health workers to be productive."

Similarly, "accessibility requires consideration of not only where facilities are located but also of whether they are acceptable to local values and culture and whether they are sustainable", he said. Quality care includes not only training but also effectiveness and efficiency.

Moreover, "too much focus is still being given to providing the best possible care for the individual at the expense of public health measures that would benefit the whole community", Dr. Nakajima said. "We must go beyond health care if we are to ensure the desired health outcome."

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

—From the WHO Constitution

UN Photo 139622/O. Monsen

WHO: What it is, what it does

Comprised of 179 member States and a multinational staff numbering 4,500, the World Health Organization —known simply as WHO—has served as the directing and coordinating authority on international health activities since it began work in 1948. As a specialized agency, WHO is part of, but not subordinate to, the UN system.

The organization promotes research, generates and disseminates information, and ensures valid and productive technical cooperation. Much of its work is accomplished through a network of independent researchers and scientists, in close collaboration with other UN organizations and a wealth of professional, charitable and other non-governmental organizations.

Also a global clearing-house on health matters, WHO is the "international pipeline" for medical and health information of all kinds, says Dr. Eilif Liisberg of WHO. It alerts the world's scientists and Governments about new drugs and treatments, new ways to organize health care and train nurses and doctors, safe levels of chemicals in food and water, and high standards of drug manufacturing practices.

In addition to vaccines and drugs, WHO also establishes norms and standards in a variety of other fields: it regularly updates guidelines on immunizations for travellers, and maintains an International Classification of Diseases so that doctors in the United States can fully understand diagnoses made by doctors in Europe or anywhere else.

WHO is not a supranational "Ministry of Health". The organization responds to the needs and requests of Governments through its governing body—the World Health Assembly. WHO is the "collective expression of the health aspirations and actions of its member States as a whole, and the partner of each one".

WHO operations emphasize decentralization. Fewer than a third of its staff—including nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, sanitary engineers, biologists, chemists, economists, statisticians, librarians—work at its Geneva headquarters.

The objective of the World Health Organization shall be the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health.
—Article 1, WHO Constitution

The vast majority are in the field, working in individual countries or in one of WHO's six regional offices serving the Americas, Europe, Africa, South-East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific. Through regional committees, these offices formulate and monitor regional policies and activities.

Research responsibilities are similarly diversified. WHO can call on 3,500 scientists in 115 countries—including a host of Nobel Prize winners—to help develop international research programmes, such as the joint UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases. There are no research laboratories within WHO itself; instead, the Organization works through existing national institutions to pursue international purposes.

For example, WHO deliberately did not create its own training centres for a comprehensive system of health and medical study fellowships established in 1948. Instead, it found schools all over the world eager to open their doors to the WHO fellows. Altogether, by 1988, almost 90,000 men and women had acquired new skills through WHO's fellowship programme and returned home to put them to good use, in many cases by training others.

WHO has also collaborated extensively with industry, especially with pharmaceutical companies, to catalyse the development of drugs against tropical disease—drugs that might not otherwise have been developed.

Such teamwork lies at the heart of WHO's purpose. According to the preamble of its Constitution, which entered into force on 7 April 1948 (marked as World Health Day each year), WHO was established by member States "for the purpose of cooperation among themselves and with others to promote and protect the health of all peoples".

Immunization A 'world war' against childhood disease

WHO Photo

Just a decade ago, nearly 5 million children died every year and roughly the same number were disabled from six vaccine-preventable diseases: poliomyelitis, measles, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

Today, however, through a global WHO-coordinated immunization programme, the lives of 3.2 million children are being saved each year from vaccine-preventable diseases and another 450,000, who might have been crippled by polio, can instead walk, run and play normally.

WHO established the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) in 1974, but it took until the 1980s for a massive international effort to be mounted. Spearheaded by WHO and UNICEF, an unprecedented number of Governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations strove to reach the global goal of universal child immunization. By 1990, a milestone on the way to that goal was reached: 80 per cent of all infants worldwide had been vaccinated against the six killer diseases.

This worldwide drive was one of the biggest collaborative peacetime efforts in history. Geographically, it stretched from the Amazon to the Himalayas and from mega-cities to remote hamlets usually unreachable even by postal service.

On 8 October 1991, former UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar said that reaching the 80 per cent target was proof "of how much good can be done for children—for humankind—when the twin engines of political will and popular participation work together with advances in medicine and technology".

The legacy of this successful campaign is a system that initiates annually almost 500 million separate contacts between health services and children. UNICEF's *State of the World's Children 1992* reports: "Even more fundamentally, the immunization effort has made a breakthrough towards primary health care by mobilizing social resources and communications channels behind a major health improvement. It has therefore helped make health into a social and not just medical responsibility."

Disease prevention through immunization not only reduces death rates, but also reduces the need for expensive curative and rehabilitative care. WHO maintains that each dollar invested in new, improved vaccines will result in an even greater return in preventive medical-care costs, disabilities and deaths.

Added to these direct benefits are important indirect benefits. WHO reports: "Immunization, by permitting more of a family's children to survive, reduces the number of births desired by a family which, in turn, reduces maternal, infant and child mortality rates. In this way, it acts in strong synergy with family planning activities and makes the further expansion of immunization services one of the best bargains available for primary health care and national development."

In 1988 and 1989, the World Health Assembly added four new goals for EPI in the 1990s: eliminate newborn tetanus worldwide by the year 1995; reduce measles by 90 per cent worldwide by the year 1995; eradicate poliomyelitis worldwide by the year 2000; and achieve and sustain at least 90 per cent immunization coverage—10 per cent more than the 1990 target—by the year 2000.

Already, the number of reported cases of paralytic poliomyelitis has decreased by more than 50 per cent since 1985 and currently appears to have been completely eliminated from the Americas.

However, extending immunization coverage beyond 80 per cent and achieving the disease control targets will be even "more difficult than reaching the 80 per cent immunization coverage target for 1990 since efforts will need to be targeted toward high-risk, perhaps difficult to reach, populations", WHO reported in 1992.

There remain worrying disparities in immunization coverage between and within countries and regions, as well as among the diseases themselves. For example, tetanus in newborn babies has been called EPI's "forgotten disease", with just a third of the world's pregnant women receiving the tetanus vaccine in 1990.

Moreover, WHO now recommends that a seventh disease —Hepatitis B, which kills more people every day than AIDS now kills in a year—be included in all national immunization programmes. Hepatitis B is responsible for about 80 per cent of all liver cancers and more cases of liver cirrhosis (60 million worldwide) than alcohol.

Although a vaccine against this incurable disease has existed for sometime, it has only recently become available in large quantities. Immunization is particularly important for children, who are more likely to develop symptoms and become carriers of the disease.

Furthermore, another 5 million to 6 million people die annually from diseases which could be prevented by developing new vaccines.

The Children's Vaccine Initiative, launched by WHO, UNICEF, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Rockefeller Foundation and the World Bank in 1990, "aims to narrow this gap between the actual and potential contribution of immunization technology", according to the UNICEF report.

One challenge is to provide affordable vaccines against malaria, respiratory infections, meningitis, neonatal sepsis, certain diarrhoeal disease such as rotavirus, as well as hepatitis A, influenza B, Japanese encephalitis, dengue fever and AIDS.

Concludes UNICEF: "The pot of gold at the end of this research rainbow is a single-shot 'super vaccine' which could be given to children soon after birth and which would protect them against all of childhood's major infections at very low cost."

The No. 1 child-killer: Acute respiratory infection

The number one killer of children worldwide is the acute respiratory infection (ARI), which causes the deaths of 12,000 children under the age of five every day—4.3 million children a year. In developing countries, 90 per cent of all ARI deaths in children are caused—and caused swiftly—by pneumonia.

Prompt treatment with an inexpensive antibiotic would save most of those lives. But according to 400 health professionals and government officials who convened an international consultation on ARI in Washington, D.C. in December 1991: "We have not yet pushed hard enough to make that treatment accessible to the children who need it most."

In 1982, WHO member States decided to combat ARI by promoting national control programmes within the framework of primary health care. An important aspect of ARI control programmes is the fact that the vast majority of children with ARI do not need antibiotics and will recover with good supportive home care based on the advice of a health worker.

An innovative case management approach, which allows health workers to recognize and provide treatment for pneumonia without aid even of a stethoscope, includes teaching health workers the early signs of pneumonia, such as inability to drink and fast breathing; prompt treatment at home of non-severe cases using oral antibiotics; and quick identification of severe cases and referral to hospital.

Measures to prevent children from getting pneumonia are also important. Immunization against measles and whooping cough would prevent up to 26 per cent of pneumonia deaths alone. Other ways include reducing such risks as low birth weight, malnutrition, overcrowding, urban air pollution and indoor smoke from cooking fires and tobacco.

In areas where the case management strategy has been tried, deaths from pneumonia have been reduced 25 to 67 per cent. Encouraged by these results, WHO and UNICEF have set a goal of reducing ARI deaths in children under five by one third before the year 2000. More than 100 Governments have committed themselves to making that goal a reality.

Ultimately, ARI control programmes not only save lives but also save money and scarce health resources. It is estimated that several hundred million dollars are wasted each year by parents, traditional healers and health workers in misguided attempts to treat ARI with ineffective or even harmful remedies. Yet, a full course of antibiotic treatment for a child with pneumonia costs less than 25 cents. Not a bad return: Save a young life for a quarter.

Tropical diseases Scourge of the South

In the tropical climes of the Southern hemisphere, there are few safe havens from the devastations of parasitic infections. Insects and other disease-carriers, which thrive in the humid air, water and inside homes in tropical countries, afflict the human population with a variety of debilitating and deadly sicknesses. Mosquitoes, for example, carry malaria, which kills up to 2 million people every year, many of them children in Africa.

Tiny blackflies buzzing along the shores of African rivers infect millions with onchocerciasis—"river blindness"—and prevent poor peasants from farming fertile banks. The tsetse fly spreads trypanosomiasis—"sleeping sickness"—to thousands in Africa every year. If not treated, this disease is guaranteed to be fatal.

In Latin America, peasants contract Chagas disease, affecting the cardiac and digestive systems, from bloodsucking "kissing bugs" which live and lay eggs in the cracks of the mud walls and palm roofs of their huts. Another parasitic disease, leishmaniasis, spread by minute biting flies, puts 350 million people in more than 80 countries worldwide at risk of disability and disfigurement.

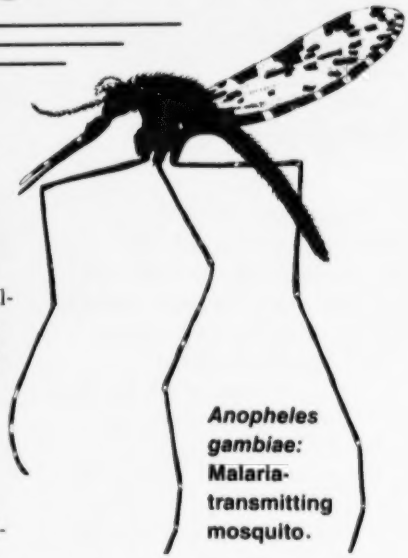
The blackfly transmits river blindness.

Schistosomiasis, an infection spread by snails, causes liver and urinary tract diseases, including bladder cancer. Some 200 million people are affected and several million young adults have serious symptoms, thus limiting the most economically productive sector of the population. In Egypt, for example, it is the leading cause of cancer death in males aged 20 to 44 years.

In all, more than 600 million people —1 person in 10 worldwide—suffer from these and other tropical diseases. The symptoms range from ulcers, internal organ damage and disabling anaemia, to gross deformities of face and limb, blindness, brain damage and death.

"Beyond their toll of individual illness and death, these tropical diseases have insidious effects on society", WHO Director-General Nakajima has said. "They impede national and individual development, make fertile land inhospitable, impair intellectual and physical growth, and exact a huge cost in treatment and control programmes."

Malaria remains one of the major health problems in the world today and is the most serious of tropical diseases despite nearly a century of eradication efforts. Every minute, two children die somewhere in the world from the effects of malaria. More than 120 million people contract the disease each year, 90 million in Africa alone.



***Anopheles gambiae:* Malaria-transmitting mosquito.**

"The situation is especially acute at present and deteriorating in many areas, particularly in 'frontiers' of economic development where deforestation, mining and increased irrigation for agricultural purposes together with the migration of large numbers of workers occur and where health services are inadequate", WHO warned in January. These difficulties are compounded by the increasing resistance to anti-malarial drugs, especially of the most dangerous strain of malaria, which can kill victims within days. Mosquitoes also are becoming resistant to commonly-used insecticides.

With the virtual failure of past malaria eradication policies, WHO's Division of Control of Tropical Diseases has recently launched a new initiative for malaria control, to be endorsed as a global strategy at an upcoming World Ministerial Conference on Malaria, scheduled for 26 and 27 October in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Currently, the simplest approaches to controlling the disease are also the most effective. Bed nets impregnated with a biodegradable insecticide, which stop and kill the pregnant mosquitoes that transmit the disease, may reduce malaria

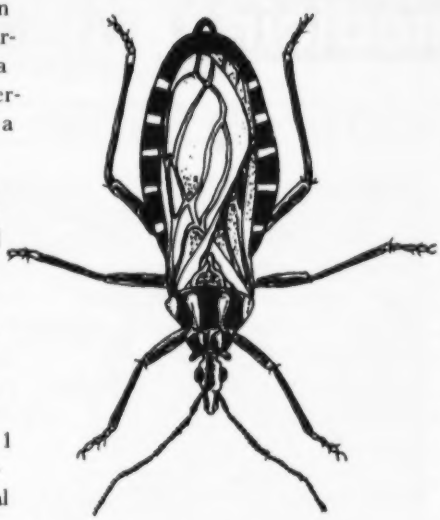
deaths by as much as two thirds in some areas. A promising new pharmaceutical weapon against malaria is derived from the leaves and flowering caps of the quinghaosu plant, a herbal remedy used in China to fight fever for thousands of years.

Still, the major obstacle to controlling malaria and other tropical diseases is that countries most affected by the scourge cannot afford to develop expensive drugs or control methods. Neither are drug companies likely to invest in developing drugs against tropical diseases, which bring in less than 1 per cent of revenues on the multi-billion dollar world pharmaceutical market.

However, the fruits of research directed against one disease may sometimes yield important finds for another. Ivermectin, a drug developed as a veterinary anti-parasitic by Merck Sharpe and Dohme, an international pharmaceutical company, has proven effective against river blindness. Combined with spraying insecticides to eliminate black fly larvae which spread the disease, ivermectin has helped to make WHO's Onchocerciasis Control Programme, launched in 1974, one of the largest and most successful intercountry field operations ever undertaken.

Some 30 million people are now protected from the disease, hundreds of thousands of cases of blindness have been averted, and fertile riverine land, previously deserted for fear of contracting onchocerciasis, has been opened up for cultivation. For example, in the West African country of Burkina Faso, steady agricultural growth during the 1980s was due largely to the expansion of cultivation in newly-freed land.

In addition, about 9 million children born since the Programme's inception are free of any risk of contracting the disease. The fourth and last phase was launched in February, aiming to eliminate the disease in West Africa by the year 2000.



Bloodsucking bugs spread Chagas disease.

WHO hopes to replicate the kind of partnership established with Merck in efforts against other diseases. The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), a joint effort of WHO, the World Bank and UNDP, has recently established a Product Development Unit to test the results of commercially-funded research for their potential as treatment and control tools against tropical diseases.

According to Dr. Tore Godal, Director of TDR, companies offering compounds to the Unit would benefit from the association with a humanitarian product, and the sick benefit from new preventative measures or a cure.

WHO/20508/P. Abensur

Checking a Brazilian waterway for the snail that transmits schistosomiasis.

Traditional medicine Wisdom of the ages

Traditional medicine, though largely ignored by modern medical practices in this age of high technology, influences the daily lives of millions of people around the world. Indeed, several remedies now considered invaluable to modern medicine, such as opium, quinine and digitalis, were discovered not through scientific research but because of their use by traditional healers.

Traditional doctors command useful knowledge and skills that can be extremely valuable in creating primary health care systems in developing countries. WHO encourages a critical assessment of traditional practices, aiming for a judicious combination of the best of the old and the new.

Herbal medicines provide some of the best examples of the wisdom of the ages. For more than 2,000 years, traditional practitioners in China have used extracts of the qinghao plant to treat the chills and fever associated with malaria. Studies show that a new drug—"arteether"—derived from the qinghao is extremely effective against new strains of malaria parasites that are resistant to known treatment.

Scientists reported last year that green tea, a popular drink in Japan, contains strong anti-cancer properties, reducing the growth of tumours of the skin, intestine and stomach by as much as 53 per cent in tests on laboratory mice.

But not all herbal remedies are effective or even harmless. One drawback is that many developing countries extract and process these medicines under unhygienic conditions, and few have set standards for their manufacture and use.

Turkey, for example, has recorded more than 10,000 plant species used medically since the Hittite empire 3,000 years ago. Only in the last few years, however, has the Government instituted controls on the processing and use of the medicinal plants.

Ancient procedures are also essential in developing countries. Acupuncture, a traditional practice that originated in China, has become sought after in many industrialized countries. WHO not only endorsed the practice, but also helped set up international acupuncture training centres and coordinated globally standardized names for the 361 classical acupuncture points used in the ancient technique.

In developing countries, traditional healers also provide dental care. In Africa, for example, chewing sticks made from plants containing flouride and having anti-inflammatory and astringent properties are used in place of toothbrushes and dental floss. African traditional healers distill concentrated solutions from leaves, bark and roots of trees for curative dentistry. They are also effective bone-setters.

Traditional healers are a particularly valuable asset in communities where modern dental care is not readily available. "The deep-rooted confidence of non-westernized Africans in traditional healers should be turned to the greatest possible advantage in the field of dental health", WHO's *World Health Forum* magazine has noted.

Based on growing evidence supporting traditional techniques, the WHO regional committee for Africa has proposed measures to regulate traditional healers including: registration; promotion of a corporate organization; legal recognition on the basis of competence; further research on traditional medical knowledge; and, wherever possible, integration into health teams.

WHO Photo 4601

Traditional dental treatment in Papua New Guinea.

Essential drugs

Modern tools

WHO/1988/W. Lindwer

At this community drug-bank in Thailand, a health volunteer is available round the clock.

Smallpox, poliomyelitis, leprosy: the list of crippling, killing diseases that are defeated or on the retreat due to the prick of a needle or swallowing a pill is ever-growing.

It was in 1796 that an English country doctor, Edward Jenner, formulated the principle of vaccination. In the two centuries since he began innoculating people against smallpox, regular breakthroughs in pharmaceutical remedies and immunizations have saved millions of lives and assuaged the suffering of many more.

Yet, half the world's population still lacks regular access to even the most basic of essential drugs. The situation is the worst in developing countries, where poorly coordinated policies, inefficient procurement, uneven distribution, inadequate quality control, unaffordable prices and improper usage are more often the norm than the exception.

In February 1981, WHO established the Action Programme on Essential Drugs to encourage the development of national drug policies and essential drugs programmes. Its objective: to ensure a regular supply, at the lowest possible cost, of a selected number of safe, effective, good quality drugs and vaccines.

The WHO Model List of Essential Drugs, promoted by the Programme, helps Governments identify national needs and improve drug selection. The list of about 270 drugs and vaccines, which can be used against up to 90 per cent of all cases of illness, includes such basic remedies as oral rehydration salts, penicillin and six major childhood inoculations.

At least 113 Governments have now developed their own national lists of essential drugs, although widespread socioeconomic deterioration in developing countries is impeding implementation of effective and efficient sustainable programmes.

WHO concludes: "If socioeconomic difficulties become more intractable, the drug situation is likely to get worse", making the essential drugs concept, with its focus on equity and health needs, even more convincing.

Vanquishing leprosy

A new drug treatment now being tested by WHO could wipe out one of mankind's oldest scourges: leprosy. The "pharmaceutical saviour" is a multi-drug therapy combining a new antibiotic with an older drug, which promises to shorten therapy time to only one month, as opposed to up to four years.

Multi-drug therapy, introduced by WHO 10 years ago, has cured almost 3 million leprosy patients in 91 countries.

There are 3 million known patients in the world, but the actual numbers are estimated to be almost twice that figure. With the stigma that the centuries-old disease carries, people afflicted are often reluctant to admit it.

"For many countries, leprosy is an intolerable relic of the past, one that takes an unreasonably heavy toll in terms of the social, economic and psychological well-being of whole families and communities", said WHO Director-General Nakajima.

In 1991, WHO member States resolved to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem by the year 2000. This goal is defined as a "reduction of the prevalence of leprosy to a level below 1 case per 10,000 population". Eradication —when not one case of it remains on earth—may be achieved sometime in the next century, especially if vaccines currently being developed prove effective.

The main challenge will be to get the multi-drug cure to all the people who need it. Just as smallpox, after a millenium of ravaging millions, was only eradicated by coordinated administration of a long-existing vaccine, leprosy will only be brought down when its victims are identified and reached.

Lifestyle diseases

The noncommunicable epidemic

Noncommunicable diseases—heart disease, stroke, cancer and chronic respiratory infection, among others—cause up to 80 per cent of deaths in developed countries.

The common denominator of risk for these diseases is lifestyle: eating the wrong foods or not enough of the right ones; smoking tobacco; overindulging in alcohol; and eschewing regular exercise.

Indeed, up to 70 per cent of cases of heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, chronic bronchitis and lung cancer could be prevented by changes in one or a combination of these behaviours. And since there are no vaccines against lifestyle diseases, prevention—changing unhealthy habits—is the only hope.

Moreover, these afflictions, long characterized as maladies of the rich in the industrialized world, cause half of all deaths in developing countries, just as death rates have begun to decrease from infectious diseases. In some Latin American countries, deaths doubled in just three decades as a consequence of affluence and economic growth.

"In many developing countries, these 'new' problems are arriving before the 'old' ones are resolved, leading to a double burden of disease", says the WHO Director-General, Dr. Nakajima. It is ironic, he adds, that socioeconomic progress, which has improved the living conditions of hundreds of millions of people, has also brought behaviour and life-styles that are "powerful enemies of health".

WHO launched a global drive against harmful lifestyles with the creation in 1990 of the Inter-Health Programme, based on the concept that diseases with common causes —namely unhealthy lifestyles— should be fought together, rather than separately, through a common strategy of prevention aimed at reducing risk by changing behaviour.

INACTIVITY

To promote healthier lifestyles, WHO also collects data on disease and death by cause, analyzes global trends, provides validated information for use in advocating healthy living and campaigns for community initiatives that will lend support to individual action.

Deadly habits

Unlike infectious diseases, where a parasite, bacterium or virus transmits a single disease, one single bad habit can pose multiple risks to health. Smokers, for example, are at risk of heart attack, stroke, lung, throat and oral cancers, osteoporosis, diabetes and hypertension.

In fact, tobacco consumption is the single greatest preventable cause of premature death and disability in the world. It causes up to 3 million deaths every year, about 1 every 10 seconds. As many as 4 of every 10 smokers will die as a result of their habit: each cigarette robs about 10 minutes from life expectancy.

Although smoking is becoming steadily less popular in the industrialized world, it is on the increase in developing countries, largely due to intensive promotional campaigns by tobacco companies. In fact, for every smoker who quits in the United States or Europe, two people start smoking in Latin America or Africa.

TOBACCO

The scope of the global cancer problem is staggering. In 1991 alone, about 9 million people developed new cases of cancer and each year more than 5 million die from it. WHO predicts these numbers will increase dramatically in the coming decades, with more than 60 million deaths from cancer before the year 2001.

However, a full third of cancers are preventable by stopping smoking, immunizing against hepatitis B and making dietary changes. Another third could be cured by earlier detection, combined with effective treatment.

Lung cancer—90 per cent of which is caused by tobacco consumption—is the perfect example of a tumour that is unnecessary, self-induced and avoidable through individual action.

For patients whose cancer cannot be cured, simple inexpensive methods can control up to 90 per cent of their pain. Still, too many programmes emphasize expensive hospital therapy, rather than the WHO-promoted troika of cancer control: prevention; early diagnosis; and pain relief.

HIGH CHOLESTEROL

Cancer is a third world problem too. By the year 2015, two thirds of the 15 million cancer cases diagnosed each year will be in developing countries, where most patients are incurable by the time they are diagnosed and less than 10 per cent receive specialized treatment.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) of the heart and arteries account for a quarter of all deaths worldwide each year—the highest proportion of any other single cause of death—taking an estimated 12 million lives annually. In developed countries, a full half of all deaths are still due to CVD.

Even though educational campaigns to change behaviour and lifestyle have led to decreases in deaths in many developing countries from CVD, there has been an increase in mortality over the last two decades in some Eastern European countries, such as Bulgaria and Poland.

Cardiovascular diseases are a growing concern in developing countries, as life expectancy increases and deaths from infectious diseases decline. In just a decade, coronaries and stroke—the major cardiovascular diseases—are forecasted to become the leading cause of death in developing countries. The middle and professional classes—on which countries depend for economic development—are at highest risk.

By the year 2000, WHO projects that CVD will claim about one and a half times as many deaths as infectious and parasitic diseases in Asia, and up to three times more in Latin America. Only in Africa and the Middle East will there still be more deaths from the age-old killers than from the modern ones.

To increase public awareness of the worldwide dimensions of CVD, this year WHO devoted World Health Day—celebrated annually on 7 April—to the theme of heart health. The message was that through prevention, 6 million lives can be saved each year.

The added bonus to CVD prevention, said Dr. Nakajima on the occasion, is that "the lifestyles recommended for healthy hearts go a long way towards preventing other ills".

HYPERTENSION

Priority for the poorest

"For most developing countries the 1980s were a 'lost decade'", says WHO Director-General Nakajima. As per capita income has dropped, barely reaching subsistence level, health systems have deteriorated and inadequacies of essential services have deepened for most of the poor.

WHO committed itself in 1989 to intensified cooperation with those countries and populations in greatest need.

Already 31 countries are participating as active partners with WHO in the initiative, which aims to develop more effective health activities in poor countries and guarantee reliable joint strategies involving international aid.

In the short term, action plans have been drawn up, country by country, for the integrated control of diseases, such as meningitis, malaria, tuberculosis and leprosy, for improved planning, management and financing of health systems, and improved coordination and use of external resources. Strengthening WHO operations at the country level is an important element.

In the longer term, WHO will continue to stress the development role of health in economic adjustment policies at both national and international levels.

Down to basics

Food, water, sanitation

WHO/1920/J Bland

About a billion people in the developing world rely on tainted water supplies; a fifth of humanity suffers from nutritional deficiencies; and millions in many countries regularly eat contaminated food.

Intestinal infections which cause diarrhoea take a particularly heavy toll, especially among the young. On average, a child under five years of age in the developing world experiences at least three bouts of diarrhoea per year. That means each year there are some 1.4 billion episodes worldwide, resulting in more than 3 million deaths, primarily from severe dehydration.

Of all infectious diseases, cholera strikes more fear in most people than almost any other. Yet, it is one of the most easily treated and least deadly of diarrhoeal illnesses; an at-home remedy lies in a simple, inexpensive oral rehydration solution—a mixture of salt, sugar and clean water.

Death rates of up to 30 or 40 per cent continue, however, due to the lack of treatment facilities with trained health workers and supplies at or near the site of epidemics.

Preventing cholera—spread through contact with human faeces—and other diarrhoeal diseases comes down to access to clean water, safe food and sanitary facilities. A lack of these basics in many developing countries brings serious consequences. WHO received reports of over half a million cases of cholera in 1991, for example, including some 29,000 deaths, more cases than were reported in the last five years combined.

Nightmare worm

WHO is much closer to winning the war against another water-borne plague. Some 3 million people a year suffer from guinea worm disease, caused by a thread-like parasitic worm that lives for a year in the body, often reaching three feet in length and taking weeks to emerge through a break in the skin.

As the only water-borne disease that can be eliminated by provision of safe drinking-water, WHO hopes that the disease (officially called dracunculiasis or "fiery little dragon") will in a few years become the second disease, after smallpox, to be completely eradicated worldwide. Its incidence has already dropped by several million in recent years.

There is no drug to treat the disease. Education so far is the best tool to combat it. Basic advice includes filtering drinking water before use, constructing piped-water supplies and concrete-lined wells, and using insecticides to treat small bodies of water.

Hidden hunger

Contaminated food causes a high proportion of infectious diseases, particularly in the developing world. The problem is exacerbated by nutritionally inadequate diets: food-borne diseases lead to impaired digestion and malabsorption of already skimpy nutrients, until resistance to illness is reduced, causing further sickness and, in many cases, death.

Children in developing countries also suffer from what WHO calls "hidden hunger", the result of micronutrient malnutrition caused by diet deficiency in vitamins and minerals such as iodine, iron and vitamin A. While rarely making the headlines, micronutrient malnutrition severely affects one fifth of the world's population—hitting women and children especially hard—although it can be readily prevented with dietary supplements, costing just a few cents per person per year.

Hazardous environment

A poor quality environment—whether rural or urban, temperate or tropical, industrialized or underdeveloped—is the leading cause of ill-health and premature death worldwide.

A full spectrum of environmental dangers threaten human health. Billions of people breathe unhealthy air in smoggy cities or from smoky indoor cooking fires. A million are poisoned each year and several thousands die from pesticides used on farms.

Desertification in the southern hemisphere threatens to increase the incidence of rodent- and insect-borne diseases. Acid rain in the industrialized north poisons fish and fresh water.

Ozone depletion could increase the incidence of skin cancer and eye diseases. Global warming could spread insect-borne diseases, such as malaria, to areas where they are currently unknown. Parched crops could lead to greater malnutrition; floods to an increase in water-borne diseases.

Environmental destruction also hinders our ability to treat and cure disease. WHO predicts that loss of biodiversity will result in the disappearance of thousands of healing plant species by the end of the century.

The issue is central to Agenda 21—the action programme adopted by the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), widely known as the Earth Summit (3-14 June, Rio de Janeiro).

"Good health and well-being can be neither attained nor maintained in hazardous and deteriorating environments", WHO Director-General Nakajima said in an address to the Earth Summit on 3 June.

The WHO Commission on Health and Environment outlined three main objectives for the health dimension of the UNCED action plan: reduce population growth, overconsumption and waste generation; provide an environment that promotes health; and make all individuals and organizations aware of their responsibility for health and its environmental basis.

Women's health: Tragedy of gender

Around the world, women play a key role in the health of their children, husbands and families. However, the care they give, the work they do and the burdens they carry are often at the expense of their own health.

An estimated 500,000 women —99 per cent of whom are in developing countries—die each year from pregnancy-related causes, according to a recent WHO report on reproductive health. The report also notes that some 300 million couples who do not want any more children have no access to family planning services.

Women generally live longer than men, but throughout their lives they face many challenges to the quality of their health and well-being.

Some health experts believe that girls are born with certain natural strengths which make them more resistant than boys to infections and malnutrition. But these are often cancelled out by social, economic, political and cultural disadvantages. In many societies, females suffer discrimination from birth to old age because of attitudes and values that are upheld and perpetuated by men and women alike. As children, girls are likely to be less well fed than boys, less likely to receive medical attention and to be allowed to finish their education.

The legacy of such childhood is short stature, low body weight and anaemia, which are major contributors to maternal death.

"Women suffer ill-health and die because they are neglected as children; married as adolescents; are poor and illiterate, underfed and overworked, subjected to harmful traditional practices, denied equal social, legal and economic status and excluded from decision-making", Dr. Nakajima said.

Health care strategies for women should be designed to cover a broad spectrum of their health problems and should encompass the whole life-cycle, including reproductive health care, family planning, disease control, mental health, nutrition, and occupational health, concluded some 400 participants attending special technical discussions on women's health at the forty-fifth World Health Assembly (4-14 May, Geneva).

Another serious cause of concern are reproductive tract infections, including sexually transmitted diseases, which are often hidden in what WHO describes as a "culture of silence". Some 250 million new cases of sexually transmitted diseases occur each year.

Since 1987, WHO has promoted the Safe Motherhood Initiative, which seeks to reduce maternal deaths by at least half by the year 2000. It aims to: improve the socio-economic and political status of women; provide appropriate family planning services for all; ensure high quality prenatal and delivery care for all women; and provide skilled obstetric care for high-risk and emergency cases.

WHO, together with UNICEF, has also waged a decade-long campaign to protect and promote the health of both mothers and babies by encouraging breast-feeding, which is more nutritious, more hygienic, and cheaper than bottle-feeding. Breast-feeding is also said to immunize against common infections, protect mothers against pregnancy and reduce the risk of breast and ovarian cancer. The most recent joint initiative, launched in 1991, designates hospitals which promote breast-feeding as "baby-friendly".

AIDS Towards community commitment

Worldwide, some 11 million to 13 million people have been infected with the virus which causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) since the beginning of the pandemic in the early 1980s, including at least 1 million children born to infected mothers. In 1991, well over 90 per cent of adults who acquired the AIDS virus—the human immunodeficiency virus or HIV—did so through heterosexual intercourse.

The vast majority of the 30 million to 40 million projected HIV infections and AIDS cases by the year 2000 will be in developing countries. In sub-Saharan Africa alone, WHO forecasts that up to 10 million infants will be born with HIV infection and 10 million children will be orphaned by AIDS by the turn of the century. Deaths from AIDS may increase child mortality rates by up to 50 per cent, wiping out the gains in child survival over the past two decades.

In the absence of any vaccine or cure, the only hope of checking the pandemic, WHO believes, lies in a two-pronged strategy of prevention through safer sexual behaviour and care for those infected with HIV. In both areas, a vital role can be played by the community—be it local, national, international, professional, social or religious—or the smallest community of all: the family.

Not only do communities bear the economic and social cost of AIDS, but the rapid spread of the disease often occurs because of community-based traditions and mores which deprive people of knowledge or control of their own sexuality. In some societies, youths and women are at highest risk of HIV infection because their socio-economic status leaves them vulnerable to sexual exploitation.

"Individuals with the lowest risk of becoming infected by HIV are those who have supportive family relationships, relative social and economic security, access to knowledge about reproductive health and consensual sexual relations", notes a recent report by UNICEF.

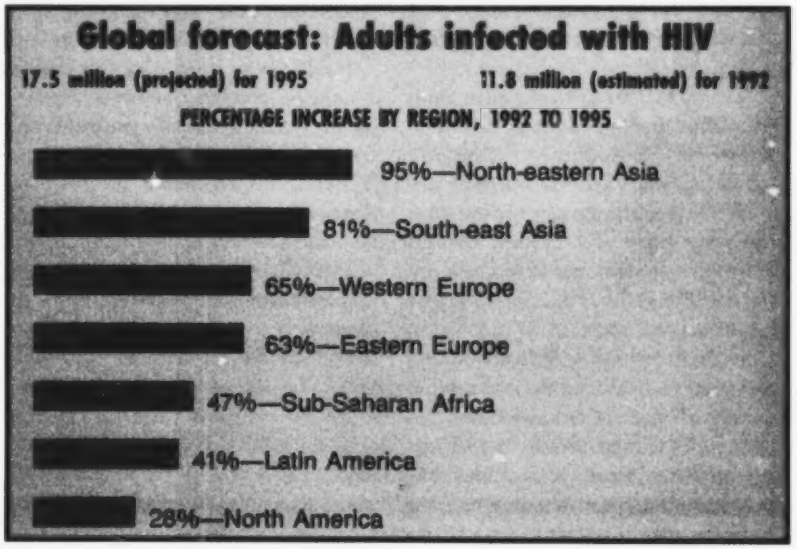
Communities can also help those with AIDS by informing people that the disease cannot be transmitted by shaking hands or using a shared toilet. Through education, communities can rid themselves of the "social pathology" of fear, ignorance and intolerance, which is as much a part of the AIDS epidemic as the HIV virus itself, assert WHO experts.

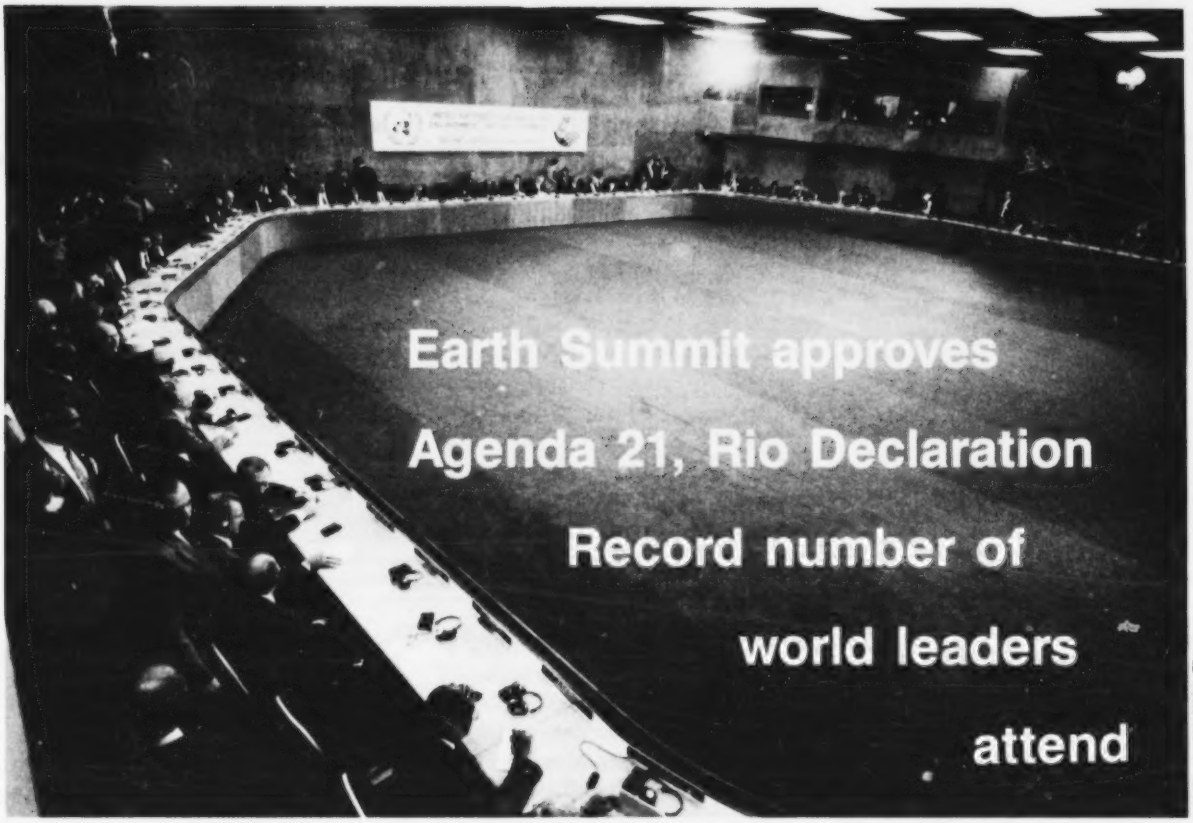
World AIDS Day—observed annually on 1 December to raise public awareness and catalyse determination to fight the disease—will focus this year on "A Community Commitment", a theme declared by WHO to stress the pivotal role communities must play in facing up to the AIDS pandemic.

"It is vital for each and every community to pledge itself wholeheartedly to the fight against AIDS", said Dr. Michael Merson, Director of the WHO Global Programme on AIDS (GPA). "Only through an enormous commitment of money, energy and imagination —within and between communities, international, national and local— can the world hope to contain the pandemic."

Since 1987, the GPA, which has a working alliance with UNDP, has helped set up more than 160 national AIDS programmes and forged common anti-AIDS campaigns with non-governmental organizations and other UN bodies, such as the World Bank, UNICEF and the UN Population Fund.

At the local level, much pioneer work in AIDS prevention and care has been done by the gay community, which has remained prominent in AIDS education as other sectors of society have been afflicted. They exemplify the WHO message: Communities that promote prevention and protect people with AIDS also protect themselves.





UN Photo 186079/M. Tzovaras

World leaders at a special round-table summit during the 12-day Conference.

It was the largest intergovernmental meeting ever held. Convened at a huge convention complex on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) mobilized thousands of people—from the unprecedented gathering of more than 100 world leaders for a special round-table summit to the 17,000 concerned citizens attending a global forum on sustainable development at a beach-front park miles from the formal proceedings.

In the course of the historic 12-day Conference (3-14 June), high-level delegates from 182 nations unanimously adopted two major international documents: Agenda 21—a voluminous action plan to promote a global transition to sustainable development; and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development—a set of 27 principles to help govern economic and environmental behaviour.

In addition, a non-binding statement of principles to protect the world's forests was agreed upon and two new international conventions —on protecting the planet's diversity of species and on preventing global warming—were opened for signature.

The "Earth Summit", as the Conference was widely known, further recommended that a new convention on desertification and/or drought be negotiated by 1994.

"A great stride has been taken towards our goal, which is simply stated: saving our planet", said UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. "Rio is but one moment on a long road, a moment which is useful because of the awareness that has been created, the decisions that have been taken, the mobilization to which it has given rise."

However, he added, "this is not a time to rest, for almost everything remains to be done. Today, man is still a formidable destroyer."

'A profound experience'

The UNCED Secretary-General and chief organizer, Maurice Strong, declared that the Conference had been more than a political meeting. It was "a profoundly important human experience from which none of us can emerge unchanged", he said. "The world will not be the same after this Conference. Diplomacy will not be the same.

The United Nations will not be the same. And prospects for our earth cannot—must not—be the same."

The main work of the Conference was conducted in two forums: one featuring speeches, the other negotiations. During the general debate held from 4 to 11 June, more than 200 speakers representing Governments, intergovernmental agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) voiced their concerns on environment and development.

The Conference also featured a two-day summit meeting (12-13 June), attended by 118 world leaders, including 106 Heads of State or Government. Many proposed specific initiatives *(see page 64)* or committed additional financial support for global sustainable development.

A new kind of humanism is being born. There is a new attitude towards the environment and a new relationship between developed and developing countries.

—Zhelyu Zhelev, President of Bulgaria (for Eastern Europe)

On the second day of the summit segment, a one-hour round-table session—the largest gathering of world leaders around a single table in the history of international diplomacy—was held. Formal statements were made by Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, also President of the Conference, Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, Mr. Strong and Heads of State or Government representing the five regional groups.

Some 650 accredited NGOs also attended the Conference to follow and influence negotiations. At the same time, more than 7,000 NGOs from 165 countries took part in the '92 Global Forum''—a two-week series of events, seminars, lectures and exhibits held at Flamengo Park in downtown Rio.

UN Photo 180108/T Prendergast

The "Spirit of Rio" was applauded as the Conference drew to a close.

Approved by the Conference on 14 June, Agenda 21 has been described as the most far-reaching action programme ever agreed upon in the international arena. Covering virtually all aspects of the relationship between the environment and the economy, the plan aims to reshape human activities in order to minimize environmental damage and ensure that development is sustainable.

Agenda 21 will be "the centrepiece of international cooperation and of coordination activities within the UN system for many years to come", affirmed Mr. Boutros-Ghali. It takes, he said, "the first steps towards spelling out the concept of sustainable development and planetary development in terms of specific actions".

Most of the action-oriented proposals in the 800-page Agenda—including 40 chapters and more than 100 different programme areas—had been completed during preparatory sessions for the Conference, which spanned a two-year period beginning in March 1990.

UN Photo 180226/T Prendergast

Delegates in the plenary heard more than 200 speakers during the general debate, 4 to 11 June.

(For details see UN Chronicle, *No. 2, 1992, pp. 40-63.)*

The politically difficult issues which had to be resolved at the Conference related primarily to implementation and financing of Agenda 21. The Conference decided that, while most financing for the Agenda would come from a country's public and private coffers, substantial new and additional external funds would also be required by developing countries.

"The cost of inaction could outweigh the financial costs of implementing Agenda 21", the plan states. "Inaction will narrow the choices of future generations."

Mr. Strong estimated that $125 billion—$70 billion more than the current official development assistance (ODA)—would be needed annually by developing countries in grants or loans to implement Agenda 21 proposals. By the close of the Conference, however, only some $6 billion to $8 billion in additional funds had been committed.

Expectations from UNCED may not have been fully met, but there is determination to work for a more equitable and environmentally sound world order.

—Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan (for Asia)

After protracted negotiations, including an 18-hour session, developed countries finally agreed to a compromise text by which they would reaffirm their commitments to reach the accepted UN target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for ODA as soon as possible. The text states that "some countries agreed or had agreed to reach the target by the year 2000".

Denmark, the Netherlands and France wholly supported the 2000 target date, while the United Kingdom and Germany did not. The United States has not accepted ODA targets.

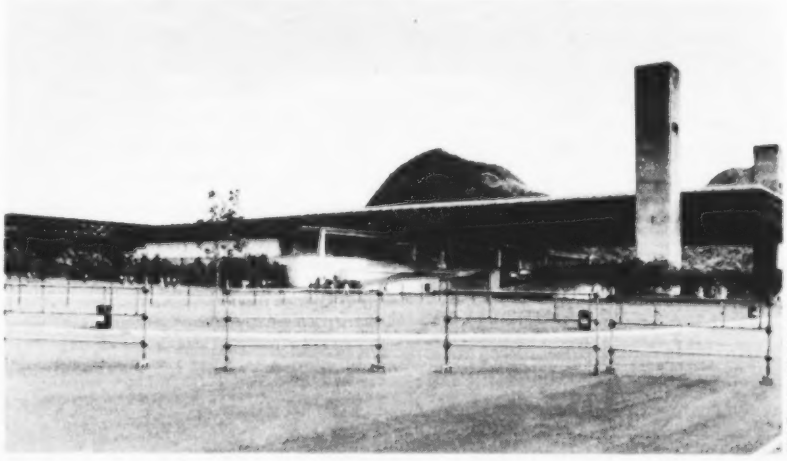
UN Photo 180366/M. Tzovaras

UNCED Secretary-General Strong meets members of a children's choir on the opening day of the Conference.

The Agenda's final text on financing also calls for restructuring the Global Environment Facility (GEF)—a $1.3 billion fund jointly administered by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Development Programme and the World Bank—to include relevant Agenda 21 programmes within its scope.

A modified GEF would ensure transparent and democratic governance; make new financial resources available on grant and concessional terms; ensure a predictable flow of funds from developed countries; and establish mutually agreed criteria for access to and disbursement of funds.

As for institutional follow-up, the Conference recommended establishment of a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development, which will report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. The Commission would monitor implementation of Agenda 21, problems faced in efforts to



UN Photo 180223/M. Tzovaras

The historic proceeding took place at the Rio Centro convention centre in the suburb of Barra de Tijuca.

Brundtland Commission: Advice for Rio

Brundtland Commission reconvenes, calls for new global policy-making body

The World Commission on Environment and Development—better known as the Brundtland Commission—reconvened in London from 22 to 24 April to offer its recommendations to the Earth Summit. It had not met since producing its landmark report, *"Our Common Future"*, in 1987.

UN Photo 160169/M. Tzovaras

Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland

Attended by most of the 22 original members, including UNCED Secretary-General Maurice Strong, the session was opened by Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, who said it was time to end an era of "procrastination and half-measures" and to enter a period of firm action.

"Human history occasionally reaches watersheds where fundamental policy changes become unavoidable. Such changes are demanded by Governments and of Governments, and arise from deep changes in the perceptions of many people", the Commission stated at the conclusion of the three-day meeting.

"We know what we have to do; it is time to do it. Unsustainable forms of development have destroyed previous civilizations, but we have now endangered life on a planetary scale."

The Commission supported the creation of a high-level commission on sustainable development to report to the General Assembly which, it said, should act as the supreme policy-making forum for sustainable development.

It also called for a new, independent world body to watch over the process of environmental recovery and advise world leaders from time to time through the UN Secretary-General.

achieve sustainable development, and progress of developed countries towards ODA targets.

Agenda 21 also calls for financing access to and transfer of environmentally-sound technologies for developing countries, while taking measures to protect intellectual property rights.

Outlining the rights and responsibilities of States for environment and development, the Rio Declaration sets forth the goal of "establishing a new and equitable global partnership" and proclaims that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. In order to achieve a higher quality of life for all people, States are urged to eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and promote appropriate demographic policies.

States have the sovereign right to exploit their own natural resources, but they also have the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction do not damage the environment or areas beyond their borders.

The 27 principles *(see pp. 66 and 67)* represent "a delicate compromise of various perceptions and priorities", said Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali. "The strength of this compromise is precisely that it is accepted by every nation in the world and not just one or another group of nations."

The Rio Declaration was originally conceived as an "Earth Charter", a document the industrialized nations believed should stress the need to protect the environment. The developing countries favoured a more detailed proclamation that reflected a greater balance between development and environment.

The United States issued a formal list of reservations about several aspects of the Declaration, including Principle 3, which requires that the right to development "be fulfilled so as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations".

Mr. Boutros-Ghali and others urged that the Declaration be the basis for an earth charter, to be negotiated in time to mark the UN's fiftieth anniversary in 1995.

New treaties

Each of the two new legally-binding international conventions was signed at the Conference by representatives from more than 150 countries.

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, adopted in New York on 9 May after 15 months of negotiations, aims to stabilize emissions of carbon dioxide and other anthropogenic (man-made) gases which accumulate in the atmosphere, trap the heat of the sun and enhance the so-called "greenhouse effect".

Controversially, the Convention does not set out specific timetables or targets for industrialized countries to limit these emissions. Instead, it aims more generally to stabilize concentrations "at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system", stating that this should be achieved "within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change".

As a first step, Governments agree to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to "earlier levels" by the end of the decade. A target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels by the end of the

UN Photo 180072/M. Tzovaras

President Collor de Mello of Brazil was the first to sign the Convention on Climate Change.

decade—advocated by the European Community but opposed by the United States—is stated as a voluntary goal.

UNCED Secretary-General Strong noted that the Convention was a "historic first step" but "only a first step". The treaty will remain open for signature at UN Headquarters until 19 June 1993 and enter into force after ratification by 50 States parties.

Saving species

The Convention on Biological Diversity, adopted on 22 May in Nairobi after nearly four years of deliberations under the aegis of UNEP, concerns the conservation and sustainable use of all Earth's species and ecosystems.

The Convention provides for: adoption of national regulations to conserve biological resources; imposition of legal responsibility on countries for the environmental impacts of their private companies in other countries; technology transfer on concessional terms; regulation of biotechnology firms; access and ownership of genetic material; and compensation to developing countries for extraction of their genetic materials.

A prime contentious issue during negotiations related to funding —whether voluntary or assessed— and which institution would manage it. After considerable wrangling, it was decided that $200 million would be administered temporarily through the GEF, pending establishment of a new structure by the Conference of parties to the Convention.

Some countries which expressed reservations on the Convention finally agreed to sign. The United States did not sign; its President, George Bush, said the treaty "threatens to undermine the protection of ideas and its financing scheme will not work".

Mr. Strong commented that this position deprived the Convention of "at least one country necessary for its effective implementation". The treaty will enter into force after ratification by 30 countries.

The non-legally binding Forest Principles—formally known as the "Statement of Principles on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests"—reflect a "first global consensus" on the issue.

Developed countries cannot afford to live in an apparently splendid present and remain blind to the threat of a destitute future.

—Franz Vranitsky, Federal Chancellor of Austria (for Western Europe and Others)

UN Photo 180075/M. Tzovaras

Organizations of indigenous peoples were among 650 NGOs that participated in the formal proceedings.

To save the planet

Many new or ongoing initiatives on environment and development were discussed at the Rio meeting. Some of these are described below:

Combatting the 'greenhouse' effect

Promise to reduce carbon dioxide emissions 5 per cent by 2000 **(Belgium)**; 30 per cent by 2005 **(Germany)**; 20 per cent by 2005 **(Luxembourg)**. . . Supports carbon dioxide tax **(Sweden)**; on fossil fuels and nuclear energy **(Austria)**. . . Supports European "ecotax" **(Belgium)** . . . Seeking clean alternatives to charcoal and coke in the steel industry **(Ireland)**. . . Using solar energy to "win the energy battle" **(Senegal)**.

Protecting forests

Will fund bilateral projects to protect tropical rain forests and their inhabitants **(Austria)**. . . Planting 4 million new trees annually to "green the sub-Arctic desert" **(Iceland)**. . . Limits use of forests to 1 per cent per year **(Gabon)**. . . Requires forest belts to be planted around rivers, lakes and hills not used for cultivation or animal grazing **(Uganda)**. . . Stepping up efforts to protect forests **(Argentina, Chile)**. . . Researching better management of its tropical rainforest **(Suriname)**. . . Contributes $115 million to developing countries for forest management **(Canada)**. . . Will double global forest assistance, phase out domestic clear-cutting and aim to plant 1 billion new trees **(United States)**.

New conventions

Treaty to protect sensitive ecological zones **(Monaco)**. . . To prohibit war operations likely to cause disasters **(Croatia)** . . . On emergency ecological assistance **(Russia Federation)**. . . To make deliberate destruction of an ecosystem a "crime against mankind" **(Kuwait)**. . . To resolve contradiction between sovereignty and environment by setting out obligations in terms of the environment and violations against it **(Uruguay)**.

Conferences

Proposes conference on special ecological protection of wetlands, which it could host in 1993 **(Turkey)**. . . on global technology to address climate change **(United Kingdom)** . . . Offers to host in 1993 the first global conference on small island states, in support of Agenda 21 **(The Cook Islands)**.

Institutions

Proposes new UN body, analogous to the Security Council, to protect the environment and take steps if natural or cultural heritage become war targets **(Croatia)**. . . a UN agency, similar to the International Atomic Energy Agency, to create environment-friendly chemical industry **(Russian Federation)**. . . UN research centre at its southernmost port for the preservation of Antarctica **(Argentina)**.

Local policies

Instituted moratorium on tourist development to safeguard local environment **(Cyprus)**. . . Using clean technology in transition to market economy **(Belarus)**. . . To create State environment-monitoring system, has penalties for disinformation on environment and a plan to protect rivers and natural resources **(Latvia)**. . . Appointed council to protect environment **(Yemen)**. . . Has constitutional provisions for environmental protection, including an ombudsman to investigate ecosystem destruction **(Namibia)**. . . Considering creation of an environment ministry and an Institute of Advanced Studies for the Amazon Basin **(Colombia)**. . . To develop new legislation to comply with Conference agreements **(Suriname)**. . . To broaden its International Development Research Centre's mandate to deal specifically with environment **(Canada)**. . . Has 28 per cent of its land under ecological protection **(Costa Rica)**. . . Devotes almost 1 per cent of gross national product to restoring rivers, seas and land **(Mexico)**. . . Presented petition calling for international action to save their country from global warming and sea-level rise **(Maldives)**.

Regional measures

Central America has regional convention to protect biodiversity; planning new treaty on disposal of toxic wastes; initiated regional system of protected areas **(Nicaragua)**. . . Offers to host an independent liaison bureau to oversee implementation of conventions for the protection of the Mediterranean and Black Seas **(Monaco)**. . . Working with neighbours to protect the Red Sea **(Yemen)**. . . Proposes sustainable development fund for Latin American and Caribbean indigenous peoples **(Bolivia)**. . . Urges designation of the Caribbean as a special zone to protect its fragile ecosystem **(Jamaica)**. . . Wants regional institution for environmental cooperation and joint survey of ecological reservoir created by demilitarized zone between North and South Korea **(Republic of Korea)**.

Miscellaneous

Special session in 1995 of UN General Assembly to follow up UNCED **(Finland)**; another Earth Summit to coincide with UN's fiftieth anniversary in 1995 **(Marshall Islands)**; a follow-up meeting in three to five years **(France)**. . . Will cancel debts in exchange for environmental protection measures **(Germany)**; has cancelled $145-million debt to Latin American countries in exchange for sustainable development programmes **(Canada)**. . . Wants Trusteeship Council to deal with international environmental concerns **(Malta)**. . . Cooperates with Costa Rica and Bhutan for sustainable development **(Netherlands)**. . . Wants "Darwin Initiative" to build inventory of precious habitats and global forum for non-governmental organizations to implement Agenda 21 **(United Kingdom)**. . . Wants ecological early-warning system in which UN should play a key role **(Russian Federation)**. . . Has pilot programme with the Development Programme to develop individualized-country plans, similar to its own "Green Plan" **(Canada)**. . . Wants international series of ecological model territories **(Mongolia)**.

Development rooted in the wanton use of natural resources is not progress. Today's bread must not become tomorrow's hunger.

—Carlos Salinas de Gortari, President of Mexico (for Latin America and the Caribbean)

Requesting all countries, notably developed nations, to make efforts towards "greening the world", the Principles call for forest cover to be maintained and increased in ecologically, economically and socially sound ways.

Specific financial resources should be provided to developing countries which establish forest conservation programmes, in order to stimulate economic and social substitution activities, the Principles state.

Mention of a possible future legal instrument for forests was replaced with a provision calling on countries to keep the Principles "under assessment for their adequacy with regard to further international cooperation on forest issues".

A forestry convention has been opposed by some developing countries which feel that it would infringe on their sovereign right to exploit their forests as economic resources.

After Rio

Both its record-breaking attendance and specific agreements achieved gave reason for "satisfaction" at the conclusion of the Earth Summit, UNCED Secretary-General Strong said. Although Agenda 21 had been weakened by compromise and negotiation, it was still the "most comprehensive and, if implemented, effective programme of action ever sanctioned by the international community".

The real measure of success would be what happens after Rio, he said, asking: "Will the Conference be just good intentions or the start of fundamental change?" The "fundamental conditions" have not changed, he noted. "The same patterns of production and consumption continue. Factories continue to belch the same smoke. The process of deterioration continues. Twenty-eight people died of hunger every minute that was spent in Rio."

Echoing the urgings of many Conference speakers, he said that what must be done is to build on the Conventions and move quickly to a desertification convention and a forestry regime acceptable to all. "We must move from a Declaration to an Earth Charter and translate good will into financial commitments", he asserted. "We have to make sure that the road from Rio is a fast track."

UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali hoped that the "spirit of Rio" could provide "the momentum for the even larger tasks ahead". He also warned that UNCED's accomplishments were "not much in the light of the issues at stake". The level of commitment was "not comparable with the scope and severity of the problems", he said.

Acknowledging efforts to "limit the forms of pollution for which we are still responsible to their current rate", he said: "One day, we shall have to do much more, and clean up the planet."

The UN, he said, "is setting the ground rules", but the Organization's role "is not to mask general inaction" with words, speeches, reports or programmes.

"Your job is to act", he told delegates and world leaders, "to assume your responsibilities".

The present opportunity for change must be seized. Time is not on our side.

—Ketumile Masirekk, President of Botswana (for Africa)

UN Photo 160055/M. Tzovaras

Conference discussions ended at Rio, but formidable tasks lie ahead: The UN will create a new commission to implement the many proposals of Agenda 21.

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

Preamble

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Having met at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992,

Reaffirming the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, and seeking to build upon it,

With the goal of establishing a new and equitable global partnership through the creation of new levels of cooperation among States, key sectors of societies and people,

Working towards international agreements which respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental system,

Recognizing the integral and interdependent nature of the Earth, our home,

Proclaims that:

PRINCIPLE 1: Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

PRINCIPLE 2: States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

PRINCIPLE 3: The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations.

PRINCIPLE 4: In order to achieve sustainable development, environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it.

PRINCIPLE 5: All States and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world.

PRINCIPLE 6: The special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable, shall be given special priority. International actions in the field of environment and development should also address the interests and needs of all countries.

PRINCIPLE 7: States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.

PRINCIPLE 8: To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies.

PRINCIPLE 9: States should cooperate to strengthen endogenous capacity-building for sustainable development by improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific and technological knowledge, and by enhancing the development, adaptation, diffusion and transfer of technologies, including new and innovative technologies.

PRINCIPLE 10: Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided.

PRINCIPLE 11: States shall enact effective environmental legislation. Environmental standards, management objectives and priorities should reflect the environmen-

tal and developmental context to which they apply. Standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate and of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries, in particular developing countries.

PRINCIPLE 12: States should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, to better address the problems of environmental degradation. Trade policy measures for environmental purposes should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade. Unilateral actions to deal with environmental challenges outside the jurisdiction of the importing country should be avoided. Environmental measures addressing transboundary or global environmental problems should, as far as possible, be based on an international consensus.

PRINCIPLE 13: States shall develop national law regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage. States shall also cooperate in an expeditious and more determined manner to develop further international law regarding liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage caused by activities within their jurisdiction or control to areas beyond their jurisdiction.

PRINCIPLE 14: States should effectively cooperate to discourage or prevent the relocation and transfer to other States of any activities and substances that cause severe environmental degradation or are found to be harmful to human health.

PRINCIPLE 15: In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.

PRINCIPLE 16: National authorities should endeavour to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment.

PRINCIPLE 17: Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority.

PRINCIPLE 18: States shall immediately notify other States of any natural disasters or other emergencies that are likely to produce sudden harmful effects on the environment of those States. Every effort shall be made by the international community to help States so afflicted.

PRINCIPLE 19: States shall provide prior and timely notification and relevant information to potentially affected States on activities that may have a significant adverse transboundary environmental effect and shall consult with those States at an early stage and in good faith.

PRINCIPLE 20: Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development.

PRINCIPLE 21: The creativity, ideals and courage of the youth of the world should be mobilized to forge a global partnership in order to achieve sustainable development and ensure a better future for all.

PRINCIPLE 22: Indigenous people and their communities, and other local communities, have a vital role in environmental management and development because of their knowledge and traditional practices. States should recognize and duly support their identity, culture and interests and enable their effective participation in the achievement of sustainable development.

PRINCIPLE 23: The environment and natural resources of people under oppression, domination and occupation shall be protected.

PRINCIPLE 24: Warfare is inherently destructive of sustainable development. States shall therefore respect international law providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict and cooperate in its further development, as necessary.

PRINCIPLE 25: Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible.

PRINCIPLE 26: States shall resolve all their environmental disputes peacefully and by appropriate means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

PRINCIPLE 27: States and people shall cooperate in good faith and in a spirit of partnership in the fulfilment of the principles embodied in this Declaration and in the further development of international law in the field of sustainable development.

Foreign direct investment, privatization considered by TNC Commission

UN Photo 177395/M. Grant

A factory in Bucharest, Romania.

Privatization and foreign direct investment, as well as the situation in South Africa, were the subjects of resolutions approved by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its resumed eighteenth session (8-16 April, New York).

The Commission stressed the "important role that foreign direct investment can play in the process of privatization", which many countries regarded as a "means to increase economic efficiency, growth and development".

It asked the Secretary-General to enhance technical cooperation activities, to assist in "attracting foreign investment and transnational corporations" (TNCs) to contribute to the implementation of privatization programmes.

The Secretary-General was also invited to explore new approaches, through case-by-case studies of foreign investment, to the privatization and deregulation processes, and to the demonopolization of economic activities.

For the first time, the Commission approved by consensus a draft resolution on the activities of TNCs in South Africa. It asked for continued compilation of a list of TNCs operating in South Africa, as well as an examination of their possible contributions to the construction of a "united and non-racial democratic South Africa in the economic and social fields, taking into account the special need for the development of human resources, particularly the training of black South African entrepreneurs".

Liberia, which submitted the text on behalf of the African Group, welcomed the consensus, stating it hoped that same spirit would extend to negotiations towards a democratic, non-racial South Africa. Portugal, on behalf of the European Community, said the text could have reflected more adequately the recent positive changes in South Africa and the contribution of TNCs to the process of change.

Growth through globalization

Ji Chaozhu, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development, told the Commission it was meeting "at a time of fundamental change in the world economy" which was becoming increasingly globalized. More than ever before, TNCs were "major actors on the world economic scene". Their role was likely to expand in the coming years, as they were a key source of important determinants of growth—namely, capital and technology.

The Commission endorsed the incorporation of the functions of the UN Centre on TNCs into the Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development. The new unit would assist Governments in creating a network of institutions, agencies and mechanisms to support the functioning of markets, mobilize human resources

and encourage enterpreneurship activities.

In debate, some developing countries expressed concern over the decrease in the level of foreign direct investment in their economies and its concentration in the triad countries—Japan, the United States and the European Community—despite their efforts to liberalize economies, privatize business and improve infrastructure.

The move towards economic integration and globalization, they argued, had resulted in a shift in the balance of bargaining power favouring TNCs over developing countries. To achieve true integration and globalization, TNCs must facilitate the transfer of new technologies.

Industrialized nations spoke of fostering open investment climates, adding that incentive structures in developing economies would have an impact on the degree of technology transfer. Dissemination of technology was not a simple process but the result of a comprehensive macroeconomic policy undertaken in the context of a free-market system.

The Secretary-General, in a report on TNCs and economic growth through technology *(E/C.10/1992/4)*, said that technology was a "key determinant of growth". Developing countries must acquire TNC technologies from developed countries. Although a "strong presence" of TNCs could inhibit development of an "indigenous technological base", competition might stimulate domestic firms to intensify research and development and improve their competitive advantage.

In another report, on issues and policy implications of TNCs in the new world economy *(E/C.10/1992/5)*, it was stated that developing countries would face the challenge of encouraging economic growth in the context of globalization, as well as regionalization. They would "increasingly need to take into account the policies of other countries and of transnational corporations".

New and changing technologies and the globalization of several industries were changing the nature of production and the ways in which developing countries participate in the international division of labour, the report states. World economic activity was being concentrated by region, in Asia around Japan, in North America around the United States, and in Western Europe around the European Community.

In the process of globalization, the "nation State is diminishing in importance as the key arena for economic activity", the report says. Some TNCs might even be described as "stateless", because their management, organizational structure and activities are no longer governed by any single country.

New policies were needed to meet the challenges of the changing world economy. Improved access to international investment policies, including their increased transparency, was crucial to promoting an efficient international system for both Governments and TNCs, the report concluded.

World Investment Report 1992: ✶ TNCs are 'engines of growth' ✶

TNCs are rapidly becoming major actors on the world economic scene, according to the *World Investment Report 1992: Transnational Corporations as Engines of Growth*, issued in July by the newly-created Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Development.

The new UN report notes that TNCs provide investment capital, transfer hard and soft technology, develop human resources, expand trade opportunities and support long-term growth in developing countries. They also make a significant positive contribution to physical capital, stimulate technology development by local institutions, train unskilled and semi-skilled workers and contribute to improved export performance.

"The evidence provides ample cause for optimism", the report states, as TNCs have made important and positive contributions to "some of the most successful recent cases of economic revival in developing countries". However, "transmitting such success to a greater number of countries is a formidable task".

Another important fact is that TNCs help generate foreign direct investment (FDI). Between 1985 and 1990, worldwide FDI outflows grew at over 30 per cent a year—higher that the growth of the world trade and world output. By 1990, the stock of worldwide FDI reached $1.7 trillion, which had been undertaken by more than 35,000 TNCs and some 150,000 foreign affiliates.

Of the $225 billion in FDI outflows in 1990, only 17 per cent—$32 billion—was directed to the developing countries. Improving such flows to those countries is crucial as they present a major source of private foreign capital for most of the developing world.

The report underscores the importance of establishing appropriate policies to maximize the benefits of TNCs to developing countries. It also expresses hope that its analysis would be helpful in policy formulation by an increasing number of those countries, and thereby help make the 1990s a "decade of renewed economic development".

International Labour Conference acts to enhance workers' protection

An International Labour Convention and a Recommendation on the protection of workers' claims in the event of the insolvency of their employer were adopted by the International Labour Conference—the supreme deliberative body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)—at its seventy-ninth session (3-23 June, Geneva).

UN Photo 109427

The Convention provides for two systems of protection: by privilege—claims arising out of workers' employment must be paid out of the insolvent employer's assets before non-privileged creditors can be paid—and by a guarantee institution.

The Recommendation states, among other things, that guarantee institutions should operate independently of the employer, and employers should contribute to their financing unless that was "fully covered by the public authorities".

Also adopted were resolutions dealing with the role of enterprises in employment growth, employment policy as a component of overall development, and the rights of migrant workers.

Attended by some 2,000 government, employer and worker delegates and advisers from 151 member States, the Conference paved the way for approval next year of new standards on the prevention of industrial disasters.

The ILO's role in the process of democratization, as well as ways of making the fullest use of human resources in countries grappling with economic crisis and structural adjustment, were also considered.

President Frederick Chiluba of Zambia, a former trade union leader, said the ILO was the "cradle of the ideals which triumphed" in his country. He appealed for "economic growth with social justice".

Education, training essential

Education and training were essential for achieving economic growth and for the success of structural adjustment programmes, the Conference agreed.

It also reaffirmed its belief in the tripartite approach—consultations among the Government, employer and worker—in finding practical solutions to various labour problems. Discussing the implementation of international labour standards by ILO member countries, the Conference found 50 cases, relating to 30 countries and 4 non-metropolitan territories, in which Governments had changed the law and practice over the past year following the Conference's comments. Many of those cases involved human rights.

Enterprises

In its resolution on the role of enterprises in employment growth, the Conference called for an environment in which "enterprises can develop". Encouragement of constructive industrial relations systems was also urged, particularly in assisting the "most marginalized in society"—women and rural workers—in finding employment opportunities.

The resolution on employment policy as an essential component of overall development called for an "active policy to promote full, productive and freely chosen employment". It stressed the need to develop programmes to "help prepare the entry of young people into working life and to reintegrate the long-term unemployed and workers displaced by restructuring or reconversion".

The Conference asked the ILO to provide adequate services, monitoring and technical cooperation on "migrant issues", and to disseminate information on the rights of migrant workers and their families. Governments, employers and workers were called upon "to combat all acts of racism and xenophobia against migrant workers".

Development Notes

Africa: 'Seed of hope'

The world community committed $526 million in new aid at the International Pledging Conference on the Drought Emergency in Southern Africa (1-2 June, Geneva) for a crisis threatening 18 million people.

Organized by the UN and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, the meeting sought to benefit the 10 countries concerned—Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A "green revolution" in Africa—the development of yield-increasing technologies for African traditional crops, such as maize, cassava, sorghum and millet—could lead to a breakthrough in food production, stated the World Food Council at its eighteenth session (23-26 June, Nairobi).

Ministers of 36 member States agreed that the current food crisis in Africa underlined the "need for improved effectiveness in responding to emergency situations", as well as the importance of strengthening the national capacities to deal with them effectively. National food strategies were also needed.

To increase awareness of the plight and the rights of young Africans, the Day of the African Child was proclaimed by the Organization for African Unity (OAU) in 1990. Observed annually on 16 June, the Day was celebrated this year with a programme at UN Headquarters, organized jointly by the OAU and the UN Children's Fund, under the theme "Keeping the Promise". In November, the OAU will sponsor a donor's conference in Dakar, Senegal, to initiate support for improving the welfare of African children.

Recovering economy, development

The global economy may recover this year from the first worldwide recession since the Second World War, but the rebound will be modest at best and could even falter in the event of significant adverse shocks, according to the *World Economic Survey 1992* released by the UN in June. Growth in the 1990s, the report warned, "may be inadequate to resolve the many and varied problems around the world".

Global growth will recover to about 1.5 per cent in 1992 before gaining more momentum in 1993, stated another survey—the *World Economic Outlook*—released by the International Monetary Fund in May. Positive aspects of the current global economic environment noted by the report include: moderate and generally declining rates of inflation in many industrial countries; no major supply-side disturbances from commodity markets; and strengthened economic performance of many developing countries undertaking adjustment efforts.

In addition, the *1992 Human Development Report*—an annual study emphasizing human beings as the measure of development—was released by the UN Development Programme on 23 April, and the *World Development Report 1992*, which concentrates on how environmental problems present obstacles for development, was released by the World Bank on 18 May.

ESCAP: Beijing declaration

A Beijing declaration, aimed at promoting economic and social progress through strengthening regional cooperation, was adopted at the forty-eighth session (14-23 April, Beijing) of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

In the declaration, Asian-Pacific Governments pledge to work closely to promote economic and social advancement in the region. Seven nations joined ESCAP during the session, bringing its membership to 56.

Satellite system used in food alerts

A satellite telecommunication system—DIANA (Direct Information Access Network for Africa)—developed and financed by the European Space Agency is to be used by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN to improve early warning on food crisis and natural disasters. A demonstration of the system, which consists of a hub station in Rome and three remote stations in Africa, took place on 14 May in Fucino, Italy.

Narcotics Commission: Novel initiatives for growing crisis

With drug trafficking and abuse approaching what has been called a "crisis of unprecedented gravity", the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has recommended the study of proposed "debt for drugs" swaps to encourage alternative development in producer countries.

At its thirty-fifth session (6-15 April, Vienna), the newly-expanded, 53-member Commission also decided that 10 precursor chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs should be placed under international control, as provided for in the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Governments were asked to bring national legislation into conformity with the Convention, especially relating to money laundering and illicit traffic by sea. States were urged to pass laws facilitating mutual legal assistance connected with drug trafficking and create mechanisms to prevent illicit trafficking of export chemicals used for manufacturing heroine and cocaine.

Taking note of the "promising, pioneering initiative" by the year-old UN International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) in developing the concept of "swapping debt for alternative development", the Commission stressed that part of the official debt of producer countries could be set aside in national funds to be used specifically for alternative development activities.

The UNDCP—the focal point of the UN Decade against Drug Abuse (1991-2000)—was established in 1991 to strengthen the UN's capacity to counteract drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

In an opening statement to the Commission, UNDCP Executive Director Giorgio Giacommelli said the Programme's strategy was two-fold: to continue action against all aspects of the drug problem; and to include such action in the development policies of the entire UN system.

In the long term, "the effort must be to reverse the cultural trend and change the image of both the user and the product", Mr. Giacommelli said.

Reporting on drug abuse in many nations, Mr. Giacommelli noted that the number of addicts in the former Soviet Union had nearly doubled in the last five years and thousands of hectares of opium poppy and cannabis were being planted illicitly. Africa witnessed a staggering increase in trafficking and abuse of narcotic and psychotropic substances, while China saw a resurgence of addiction to opiates originating from the "Golden Triangle" region in South-east Asia.

Opium poppy

The Commission would have the UNDCP report on the progress achieved by the UN Environment Programme in studying the environmental effects of illicit drug cultivation and manufacture, assist States in using modern technology to control illicit cultivation and production, and assess the possibility of crop substitution or development alternatives.

Governments should support the Decade's implementation and find ways to solve the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials used for medical purposes, which imposed a heavy financial burden on supplier countries.

The Commission decided to convene a ministerial meeting in Tehran of the Subcommission on Illicit Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and approved Iraq's application for membership in the Subcommission.

The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) considered, at its fifty-second session (4 -15 May, Vienna), ways of supervising commerce in chemicals and other substances to prevent their diversion into illicit channels.

In a message on 26 June to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Secretary-General asserted: "No nation is immune from the devastating consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking", including an upsurge in crime and violence; the destruction of individuals, families and entire communities; and the undermining of national economies.

New UN Crime Commission meets in Vienna

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice—the newest functional body of the Economic and Social Council—at its inaugural session (21-30 April, Vienna) approved an omnibus draft resolution which could serve as a blueprint for the future activities of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

Although the UN cannot be a "world policeman", it could help mitigate conflicts and protect victims, particularly by providing technical assistance, said Giorgio Giacomelli, Director-General of the UN Office at Vienna, speaking before the new Commission on 21 April.

Established in February to replace the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, the Commission considered: strengthening the Programme's operational capacity and advisory services; the involvement of Member States in operational activities; the coordination and funding of activities; and programme priorities and follow-up.

It also decided, on the recommendation of the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (21-23 November 1991, Versailles, France), to consult Member States on the desirability of a convention on crime prevention and criminal justice.

New priorities, new strength

The Commission is charged with developing, managing, monitoring and reviewing implementation of the Programme. During the reform process that led to the creation of the new body, a review of UN activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice found that crime was increasing at a global rate of 5 per cent per year, far greater than the rise in population growth.

Priority areas of the Commission will include: national and transnational crime; organized crime; economic crime, including money laundering; the role of criminal law in the protection of the environment; crime prevention in urban areas; and juvenile and violent criminality.

It will also concentrate on improving the fairness and efficacy of management and administration of criminal justice systems. Experts from the former Crime Committee said that the Commission would have an advantage over the old body in that its recommendations would be the decision of Governments, rather than of independent experts, and would, therefore, have to be respected by Member States.

Mr. Giacomelli noted that such new strength was needed to tackle the problems of drug trafficking, illegal arms sales, terrorism, dumping of industrial waste, and criminal negligence resulting in environmental degradation, corruption and financial offences.

Dirty money

A report by the UN Secretary-General *(E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.5)*, considered during the session, stressed the importance of a concerted international effort to deal with money laundering. It outlined three basic steps involved in cleaning up dirty money: placement, layering and integration.

"Placement" is the actual placing of cash in a financial institution for transfer elsewhere or the purchase of a monetary instrument, such as a bank cheque, which could be transferred.

"Layering" is the process of transferring the funds among numerous accounts, preferably in many countries, by means of a complex series of financial transactions designed to hide any evidence of the original source of those funds.

The final step of the laundering process, "integration", is the shifting of laundered funds—either to the criminal organization or to legitimate organizations that have no apparent connection with organized crime—in such a way that there is an innocent explanation, like a foreign loan, for possession of the funds.

Revise laws

Aware that control of money-laundering proceeds is an essential element in the struggle against organized crime, the Commission would have Governments asked to revise laws, with the advise of the Secretary-General, in order to prevent money laundering. The Secretary-General was also asked to keep the Commission informed of the impact of organized crime on society, particularly with regard to data on its nature, extent and form, and laws on controlling it.

The Ninth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, scheduled for 1995, should discuss international cooperation and technical assistance for strengthening the rule of law, action against economic, organized and environmental crimes, improvement of criminal justice systems, and crime prevention strategies for urban areas, particularly juvenile criminals and victims, the Commission decided, taking note of Iran's offer to host the Congress.

Touring the UN

Young minds reflect on the state of the world

By Elsa B. Endrst

UN Photo

Children visiting the UN view the Norman Rockwell mural, "The Golden Rule".

I learned a lot about the United Nations the day I visited, wrote schoolgirl Mary Yu in a letter to Daniel Kolaj, an Albanian UN guide.

"I never new (sic) that the United Nations helped so many people, countries and solved so many problems. I think the most special thing I like is the Security Council. It can help people solve problems without attacking each other", concluded the young student.

The UN Department of Public Information (DPI) at New York Headquarters calls its visitor tours "an uncommon experience on common ground". Every day, UN guides provide a unique experience to groups as varied as sixth graders from the Bronx, West Point cadets, Girl Scout troops, New Zealand cattle breeders, Tibetan monks, or just a mixture of tourists from the United States and abroad.

"You can take a tour in 1 of 20 languages, trace the course of world events, circle the globe in 60 minutes and visit the conference halls where nations gather", a brochure notes. At present, 47 guides from 28 countries lead visitors through the building.

Schoolchildren, with their short attention spans, endless questions, and innate restlessness, are a challenge, but guide Kolaj says they are especially enjoyable. He starts off by outlining the purposes and goals of the UN, then helps the children apply some of what they have learned to their own lives.

Dutch guide Henrik Brussen aims above all to keep the kids interested and to reach them at their own level of understanding. His goal is to impress them, no matter how minute the detail. "As long as they remember something", he says.

Classes are usually well-briefed about the UN by their teachers before the tour. Nevertheless, school children come up with some imaginative questions and amusing reactions. For example, one little girl quite seriously asked, "What do you do when a diplomat's ear doesn't fit into the earphone?"

How many dinosaurs?

A young boy, impressed by the size of the General Assembly Hall, thoughtfully inquired how many dinosaurs it would hold. The guide, after contemplating this unique question, replied, "I imagine about five." The boy's response: "Hmmm, five dinosaurs. This really IS a big hall!"

That the UN is located on international territory recently intrigued a third-grader who wondered: "Why then is it not left out of a New York City or United States map?"

A group of eight- and nine-year-olds from Brooklyn, being shown a large picture of former United States President Ronald Reagan and former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev shaking hands, were asked if they knew what the term "cold war" meant. One girl shyly raised her hand and ventured: "Is that when many people have a cold?"

Guides often receive thank-you letters from the children. "I want to go so many places in the world that I learned about", wrote Kota, a third-grader from Leonia, New Jersey, to the guide who had shepherded her class through the UN. A classmate, Hjong-Bin, enthused: "I really appreciate what you are doing right now. I thank you for trying to save the earth and animals, if they drink polluted water."

A girl named Nana asked in another letter: "Can you stop wars and give food to the poor?" Takura told the UN to "play as a strong police to keep the world peace", and Emma wrote, "Please make sure children all over the world have enough to eat".

To more general letters and requests, the Public Inquiries Unit of DPI offers prompt replies and a wide selection of helpful material, including students' kits, brochures, a trivia quiz, and Model UN materials —some free, others for a fee.

'Just do it'

Across the street from UN Headquarters, the head office of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) offers another eye-opening experience for children of all ages. At its Danny Kaye House Visitors Center, young and old can learn about the challenges facing the world's children today, and of UNICEF's hopes for their future.

A video opens the exhibit, creating "awareness of what the world is all about and what each of us can contribute to positive change", says tour volunteer Julie Solo. She recalls many interesting reactions from children watching the short film. Recently, for example, one puzzled five-year-old, responding to information that just one fifth of annual arms expenditures could abolish world hunger, asked simply: "So why don't we just do it?"

The UNICEF display also has prompted youngsters to consider their own lives in relation to that of the many less fortunate children around the world, Ms. Solo says. "I really feel sorry for all those poor foodless kids who die every day", wrote T. J. Taber of New Jersey to the guide. In another note, Erin Weig, also from New Jersey, said she was "really sorry for those kids that don't even get to live to age three".

The visiting children also learn about practical solutions being developed. Referring to the simple rehydration therapy now available to combat devastating diarrhoeal diseases, one child wrote: "I think UNICEF is a wonderful thing for hungry and poor children. If a child drinks dirty water, all you have to do is give them a packet from UNICEF that's only 10 cents and lots of water."

Out of the "mouths of babes" comes proof that the UN and its family of international organizations are changing the perspective of a whole new generation.

UNICEF Executive Board: Wide-ranging annual session

The Executive Board of UNICEF, in a wide-ranging annual session (15-26 June, New York), called for the development of UNICEF activities in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

"The sudden and drastic decline in household income, social transfers and, in some cases, social expenditures on health, education and child care are making the transition to more market-oriented economies serious and painful for many children", states a UNICEF report *(E/ICEF/1992/L.16)*.

Activities, including technical assistance, training and programme support, will address the problems faced by women and children in those countries, due to growing unemployment, food supply reduction due to inflationary prices, decreasing family allowances and increasing homelessness.

The Board also decided to continue programmes and collaboration with the international community on: assistance to children and mothers who are victims of the Chernobyl disaster; community-based health development through the Bamako Initiative; and child survival and protection in Africa, particularly in areas affected by armed conflict, natural disasters, drought and desertification.

Also considered during the two-week session were the interlinkage of children, environment and development, family planning programmes, and the Children's Vaccine Initiative.

States were invited to observe each year, on 20 November or on a day they considered appropriate, Universal Children's Day, with special emphasis on promoting the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child. A progress report on the follow-up to the 1990 World Summit for Children notes that "foremost" among the developments is the large number of ratifications—114 countries by early April—of the Convention.

A Look Back:

UN Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992)

UN Photo

For centuries, disabled people carried a double burden: not only were they mentally or physically impaired by birth defects, disease and accidents, but they also comprised one of the most exploited, oppressed and ignored groups in world society.

In recent decades, this has begun to change, particularly with the adoption in 1982 of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons. The action programme and the UN Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) set into motion a transition from charity to self-empowerment for the world's 500 million disabled.

The Decade was built upon the awareness created by the International Year of Disabled Persons (1981) to achieve the goals of disability prevention, rehabilitation, and equalization of opportunity.

As the Decade draws to a close, it is evident that much has been achieved, especially in countries which have given organizations of disabled people an active role in formulating and implementing disability policies.

Success stories range from disability prevention through campaigns to rid large areas of the ancient scourge of river blindness in Western Africa, to long-term rehabilitation by community-based programmes in Indonesia and the Philippines.

The Decade was enhanced by the full involvement of the UN system, including efforts by the UN Development Programme, the UN Children's Fund, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

But the achievements have not been universal. In many areas, the essential objectives of the action programme—full participation and equality—are yet to be realized, especially in developing countries where disability can mean the difference between poverty and destitution.

Awareness to action

"Although the Decade has achieved a global awareness of disability issues, awareness alone will not ensure that disabled people obtain fully equality of opportunity", UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in a message to "Independence 92"—an international Congress and Exposition on disability (22-25 April, Vancouver, Canada).

During four special plenary sessions to mark the end of the Decade, the General Assembly in 1992 is expected to endorse a new strategy for implementing the Programme of Action to the year 2000 and beyond.

The long-term strategy—prepared by a UN expert group and convened in conjunction with the April Congress—will focus on the creation of legislation to promote rehabilitation, independent living, human rights and economic independence.

The theme of the new strategy—"A Society for All: From Awareness to Action"—puts the onus on society to accommodate itself to the differences of its members, rather than obliging people to adjust to the existing structures of society. The aim is to speed up advancement of disabled persons in political, cultural, social and economic life.

Said Mr. Boutros-Ghali: "The last year of the Decade will be used as a transition point for putting into place the lessons learned over the past 10 years, for further transforming awareness into action and for ensuring that issues concerning persons with disabilities are given the priority they deserve."

Chronicle BookWatch

Security Council Summit Meeting

New York, 31 January 1992
United Nations, New York, 1992. 104 pp.

"The meeting of the Security Council on 31 January 1992 was an event without precedent in the annals of the United Nations", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali writes in the foreword to this commemorative edition of the verbatim record. "It constituted the first time ever that the Heads of State and Government of the Council had come together to pledge their commitment to international law and to the Charter of the United Nations." Stately in design and printed on heavy paper with full-page photographs of the principals at the meeting, the book makes available to students a record of an historic occasion.

Yearbook of the United Nations 1987

UN Department of Public Information
Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, Dordrecht, The Netherlands
UN Publications, New York
1431 pp. $105. Sales No. E.91.I.1 ISBN 0-7923-1613-4

Seldom is a yearbook the object of critical praise. Anyone familiar with the complexities of the UN, however, will applaud the exquisite achievement of the 20 writers, editors and assistants who prepared the *Yearbook* for 1987. Subject by subject, the main work of the UN is reviewed, debates are summarized, and the texts of key resolutions and decisions reproduced. In the volume's second part, the activities of intergovernmental organizations related to the UN are briefly surveyed. A superb subject index maximizes the usefulness of the *Yearbook* as a research instrument.

World Statistics in Brief: United Nations Statistical Pocketbook

14th edition, UN Department of Economic and Social Development
UN Publications, New York, 1992
117 pp. $7.50. Sales No. E.92.XVII.5 ISBN 92-1-161344-2

Using the latest data available as of 30 September 1991, the UN Statistical Office has created the new edition of its indispensable pocket-size collection of key indicators for the world's regions and 168 countries. Basic statistics, arranged in an easy-to-read format, highlight geography, population, economic activity, agriculture and industry, international trade and tourism, transport, communications, education and health. Technical notes serve as a useful introduction to the sources, meaning and problems of the data.

Reaching Children in War: Sudan, Uganda and Mozambique

Cole P. Dodge and Magne Raundalen
Scandinavian Institute of African Studies, Uppsala
Sigma Forlag, Bergen, Norway, 1991
146 pp. $11.95. ISBN 91-7106-319-6

Cole Dodge, one of the United Nations Children's Fund's living legends, and Magne Raundalen, a Norwegian psychologist, have written an important book about reaching and assisting child victims of armed conflict. Using their extensive field experience in some of Africa's most brutal civil wars, the authors show what can be done for the youngest victims of conflict—from establishing "corridors of peace" to helping severely traumatized children. Authoritative and life-affirming, the book will become a classic in its field.

El Salvador Agreements: The Path to Peace

United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador
UN Department of Public Information
New York, 1992. 148 pp.

Years may pass before the publication of a detailed history of the negotiations that led to the signing in Mexico City on 16 January 1992 of the accord that ended El Salvador's 12 years of civil war. Until such a study appears, we will need to depend on the historical sketch and the texts of the various agreements reached under the auspices of the Secretary-General, and collected in this timely book. The subject awaits its historians; this handsome volume may help to attract them.

World Labour Report 1992

International Labour Organisation
International Labour Office, Geneva, 1992
105 pp. 20 Sw. Fr. ISBN 92-2-107110-3

With this issue, the *World Labour Report* becomes an annual publication that proposes to review frankly human rights, employment, labour relations, social protection and working conditions. Such a report is welcome, for while the process of democratization continues in several regions of the world, many workers cannot freely organize. "Hundreds of trade unionists were reported murdered in 1990 and 1991", the *Report* states. "Thousands more were imprisoned or sacked because of their union work." There are hundreds of millions of child labourers, and female workers suffer discrimination almost everywhere. Moreover, the unemployment and underemployment figures remain grim. Through its analyses and statistics, the *Report* will help address these challenges.

Transnational Corporations

Vol.1, No. 1, February 1992
UN Department of Economic and Social Development
Centre on Transnational Corporations
UN Publications, New York
205 pp., $15 ($35 for 3 issues per year)

Several of the world's leading scholars of transnational corporations (TNCs) help launch this new journal with cogent analyses of some major policy issues in international business and development. The University of Toronto's Sylvia Ostry, for example, argues that the world has entered a phase of "globalization" centred on the flow of capital and technology and driven by TNCs. Intended for the publication of research findings and the exploration of issues, the journal, which replaces *The CTC Reporter*, will be necessary reading for the serious student.

Reviewed by Harold Fruchtbaum
Professor, Columbia University, New York

NEWS ALMANAC

Assessing human rights

The General Assembly on 6 May decided to convene the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, Austria, for two weeks in June 1993. It took that decision after offers to hold the meeting in Venice and Berlin were withdrawn. The Conference is to review and assess progress made in human rights since the adoption of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to identify obstacles in that area. Conference themes will include the effectiveness of human rights instruments, the question of development, the relationship between democracy and human rights, and possible new methods for improving human rights.

The Human Rights Committee, at its forty-fourth session (23 March-10 April, New York), examined steps taken by Algeria, Belgium, Colombia, Peru and Yugoslavia to implement the provisions of the 1976 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Committee against Torture—established under the 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment—held its eighth session in Geneva (27 April-8 May).

Developing communications

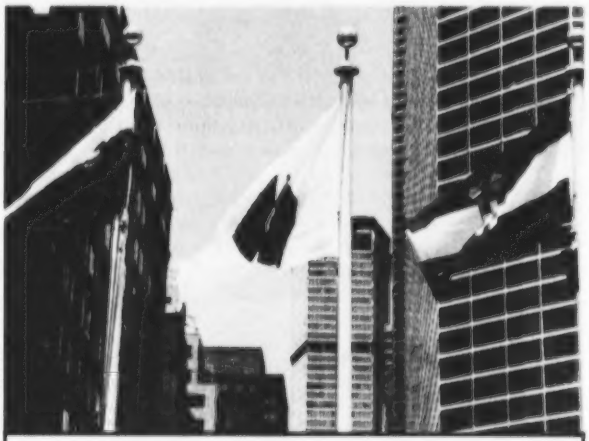
The Committee on Information has urged Member States to suggest ways to develop communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries.

At its fourteenth session (30 March-16 April, New York), the Committee called for a report on how to integrate UN information centres located all over the world, with other UN offices, while maintaining the centres' functional autonomy. It also emphasized that the improved effectiveness of the centres was essential to strengthening the UN's image.

The Committee would have the General Assembly urge all countries to ensure journalists free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them. The 79-member body also decided to increase its membership to 81 by the addition of Senegal and the Republic of Korea.

Ageing population grows

The proportion of world population aged 65 or over has increased from about 5 per cent in 1950 to 6 per cent in 1990, and is expected to reach 10 per cent in 2025, according to *World Population Monitoring, 1991,* a report issued by the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Development (DESD). The longest life expectancies are enjoyed by women in France, Switzerland, Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, Hong Kong and Macau, notes another DESD report, *the Demographic Yearbook 1990,* issued in April by the Statistical Office.



UN Photo 179950/M. Grant

Three new Member States—Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia—were admitted to the UN on 22 May, bringing the total membership to 178. The Organization has been enlarged by the addition of a record number—19—of new Members since mid-September 1991.

Nicaragua discontinues case against Honduras

Nicaragua on 11 May informed the International Court of Justice that, taking into consideration its "out-of-court agreement" with Honduras to enhance good neighbourly relations, it had decided to "renounce all further right of action" based on the case "Border and Transborder Armed Actions (Nicaragua vs. Honduras)". Honduras on 14 May stated that it did "not oppose discontinuance of the proceedings". On 27 May, the World Court removed the case from its docket.

ITU recommends Advisory Council

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) has recommended establishment of a World Telecommunications Advisory Council composed of senior representatives of the telecommunications industry. The Council would make recommendations to ITU to promote harmonious worldwide development of information technology and raise awareness of the importance of investing in telecommunications among financing institutions and Governments in developing countries.

UN financial situation 'precarious'

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reported in May that the UN financial situation remained "precarious", with outstanding contributions at "extremely high levels". The continuing financial difficulties were attributed to vastly increased requirements for peace-keeping operations and to payment delays, particularly by major contributors.

Unpaid assessments on 30 June totalled $1,852.1 million, including $910.6 million in unpaid contributions to the regular budget and $941.5 million owed for various peace-keeping operations. The countries owing the most money to the regular budget were: the United States, $555 million; the Russian Federation, $138 million; South Africa, $49 million; Brazil, $33 million; and Ukraine, $17 million.

UN Photo 179929U Isaac

Some 2,000 youngsters from 60 countries attended the Global Youth Forum (14-15 May), an annual conference sponsored by the UN Environment Programme, held at UN Headquarters in New York. The Forum encourages young people to share their experiences with community-level environmental action through talks, workshops, exhibitions and performances.

Airline traffic recovers

After a decline of 3.5 per cent in 1991, total scheduled airline-passenger traffic is expected to grow by 4 per cent in 1992, 5 per cent in 1993, and 6.5 per cent in 1994, according to recent forecasts by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The total international and domestic scheduled passenger traffic of ICAO's 167 member States is estimated at 1,826 billion passenger-kilometres for 1991. That is expected to rise to about 2,130 billion by 1994.

In brief . . .

• A Preparatory Committee for activities to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the UN in 1995 was established by the General Assembly on 13 April.

• Viet Nam is to nominate six sites to the World Heritage List—a compilation of natural and cultural sites accepted as being of "outstanding universal value"—a UNESCO workshop (15-17 April, Jakarta, Indonesia) was told. The workshop marked the twentieth anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.

• Eleven ozone-depleting substances, in addition to the eight covered in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, would be reduced or phased out by the year 2000 under the London Amendment, which has been ratified by the requisite 20 parties to the Protocol and will enter into force in August.

• A 1988 Joint Protocol—establishing a bridge between the 1960 Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy and the 1963 Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage by extending the benefit of each treaty to the parties of the other—entered into force on 27 April.

• A class of 86 young men and women from 45 different nations and cultures graduated from the UN International School (UNIS) in a ceremony held in the UN General Assembly Hall on 19 June. Sir Brian Urquhart, a former Under-Secretary-General of the UN, addressed the UNIS Class of '92.

UN Stamp Corner

To mark the thirtieth anniversary of the UN Philatelic Museum, a special slogan cancellation was put into use starting 15 June on letters mailed from UN Headquarters in New York and Geneva.

Opened to the public on UN Day—24 October—in 1962, the museum holds a collection built up during the first half of this century by a Geneva teacher and philatelist, Charles Mistelli. The collection covers almost a complete range of stamps issued for the League of Nations and the International Labour Office from 1919 onwards, and now includes a complete set of all UN stamps issued since 1951.

The earliest items in the collection are stamps overprinted in 1919 with "Versailles Peace Conference", the historic event that led to the foundation of the League of Nations. Also on display are stamps issued for UN specialized agencies and the International Court of Justice.

The museum, open weekdays to the more than 100,000 visitors to the Palais each year, also has a readers' corner with philatelic publications from all parts of the world.

The anniversary cancellation features an illustration of the Palais des Nations, which houses the museum.

Coming Up. . .

A preview of some important United Nations conferences and events

October-December 1992

New York

15-16 October	International Conference on Ageing
20-21 October	Administrative Committee on Coordination, 2nd regular session
October	Tenth UN Pledging Conference for the World Disarmament Campaign
30 November	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People—Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
November	UN Pledging Conference for Development Activities
	Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
	Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
December	Disarmament Commission, organizational session

Geneva

5-9 October	UNHCR—Executive Committee, 43rd session
19 October-6 November	Human Rights Committee, 46th session
5-20 November	ILO—Governing Body and its Committees, 254th session
9-20 November	Committee against Torture, 9th session
23 November-11 December	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 7th session

Vienna

2-6 November	UNIDO—Industrial Development Board, 10th session
9-26 November	International Narcotics Control Board, 53rd session
3 December	IAEA—Board of Governors

Other Locations

October-November	IMO—Council, London
9-20 November	FAO—Council, 102nd session, Rome
16 November-18 December	ICAO—Council, 137th session, Montreal
December	UN University—Council, 40th session, Tokyo

Membership of Principal United Nations Organs in 1992

General Assembly

The General Assembly is composed of all 178 United Nations Member States:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, *Argentina, Armenia, *Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, *Belarus, *Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, *Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, *Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, *Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, *Chile, *China, *Colombia, Comoros, Congo, *Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, *Cuba, Cyprus, *Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, *Dominican Republic, *Ecuador, *Egypt, *El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, *Ethiopia, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Finland, *France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, *Greece, Grenada, *Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, *Haiti, *Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, *India, Indonesia, *Iran, *Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, *Lebanon, Lesotho, *Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, *Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, *Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, *Netherlands, *New Zealand, *Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, *Norway, Oman, Pakistan, *Panama, Papua New Guinea, *Paraguay, *Peru, *Philippines, *Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, *Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, *South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, *Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, *Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, *Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, *United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, *United States, *Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, *Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, *Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Founding Member

Security Council

The Security Council has 15 members. The Charter has designated five States as permanent members, and the General Assembly elects 10 other members for two-year terms. The term of office of each non-permanent member of the Council ends on 31 December of the year indicated in parentheses below.

The five permanent members of the Security Council are: China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States.

The 10 non-permanent members of the Security Council in 1992 are: Austria (1992), Belgium (1992), Cape Verde (1993), Ecuador (1992), Hungary (1993), India (1992), Japan (1993), Morocco (1993), Venezuela (1993), Zimbabwe (1992).

Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council has 54 members elected for three-year terms by the General Assembly. The term of office for each member expires on 31 December of the year indicated in parentheses below. In 1992, the Council is composed of the following 54 States:

Algeria (1992), Angola, (1994), Argentina (1993), Australia (1994), Austria (1993), Bahrain (1992), Bangladesh (1994), Belarus (1994), Belgium (1994), Benin (1994), Botswana (1993), Brazil (1994), Bulgaria (1992), Burkina Faso (1992), Canada (1992), Chile (1993), China (1992), Colombia (1994), Ecuador (1992), Ethiopia (1994), Finland (1992), France (1993), Germany (1993), Guinea (1993), India (1994), Iran (1992), Italy (1994), Jamaica (1992), Japan (1993), Kuwait (1994), Madagascar (1994), Malaysia (1993), Mexico (1992), Morocco (1993), Pakistan (1992), Peru (1993), Philippines (1994), Poland (1994), Romania (1992), Russian Federation (1992), Rwanda (1992), Somalia (1993), Spain (1993), Suriname (1994), Swaziland (1994), Sweden (1992), Syrian Arab Republic (1993), Togo (1993), Trinidad and Tobago (1993), Turkey (1993), United Kingdom (1992), United States (1994), Yugoslavia (1993), Zaire (1992).

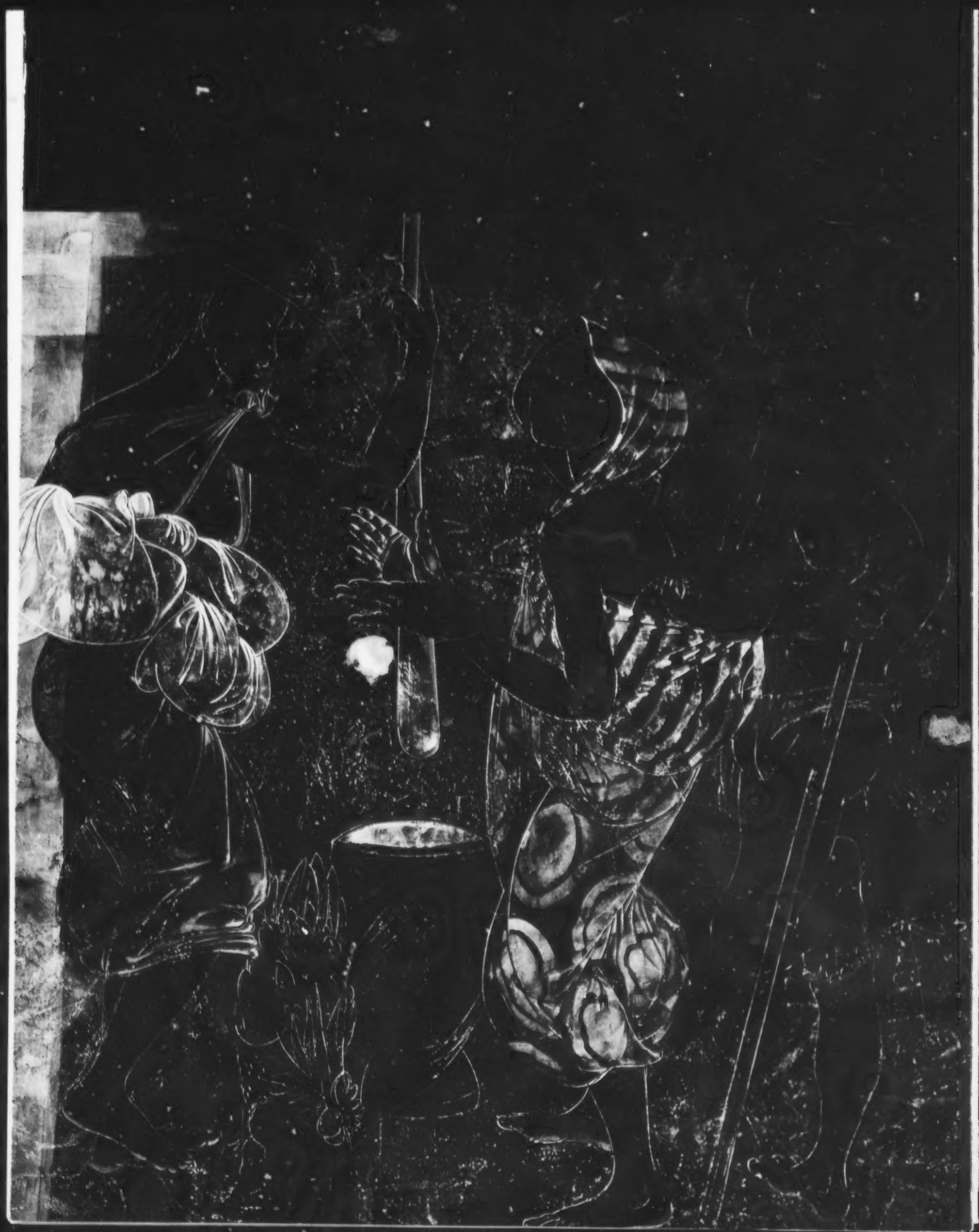
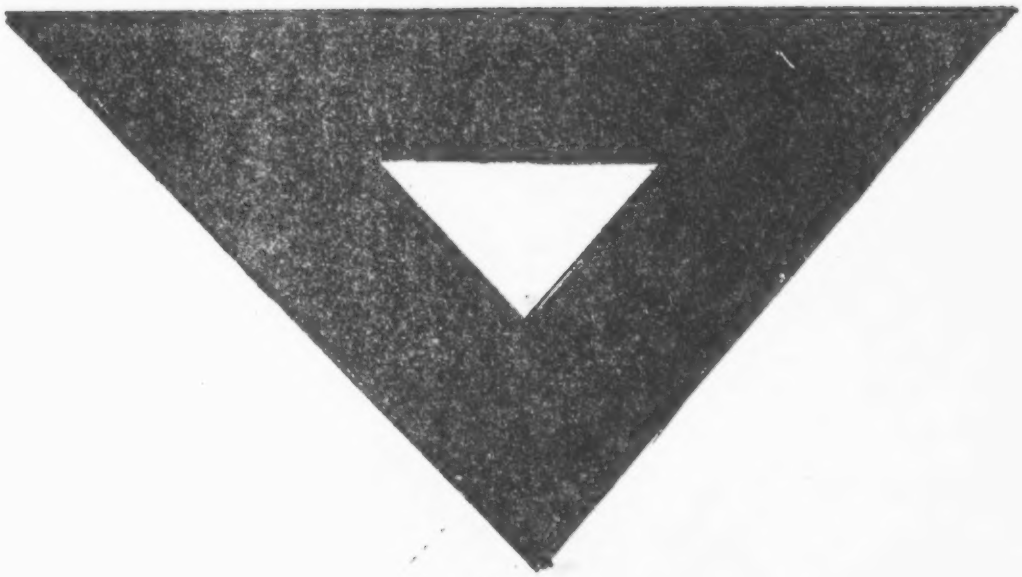
Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council has five members—China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States—which are also the five permanent members of the Security Council.

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice has 15 members, elected by both the General Assembly and the Security Council. Judges hold nine-year terms, which end on 5 February of the year indicated in parentheses below.

The Judges, listed in their official order of precedence, are:

Sir Robert Yewdall Jennings of the United Kingdom (2000), Shigeru Oda of Japan (1994), Manfred Lachs of Poland (1994), Bola Ajibola of Nigeria (1994), Roberto Ago of Italy (1997), Stephen M. Schwebel of the United States (1997), Mohammed Bedjaoui of Algeria (1997), Ni Zhengyu of China (1994), Jens Evensen of Norway (1997), Nikolai K. Tarassov of the Russian Federation (1997), Gilbert Guillaume of France (2000), Mohamed Shahabuddeen of Guyana (1997), Andrés Aguilar Mawdsley of Venezuela (2000), Christopher G. Weeramantry of Sri Lanka (2000) and Raymond Ranjeva of Madagascar (2000).

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